CONSTITUTION
— AND —
DISCIPLINE

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Origin
Doctrine, Constitution
AND
DISCIPLINE
OF THE
CHURCH OF THE
UNITED BRETHREN
IN CHRIST
1929-1933

U. B. PUBLISHING ESTABLISHMENT
HUNTINGTON, INDIANA
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of 1929
Clarence A. Mummart
Editor

INTRODUCTION

At the General Conference held in York, Pennsylvania, in May, 1889, a portion of the General Conference abandoned the Confession of Faith and organized a new church having new articles of faith and a new constitution. As that church has seen fit to issue a book of discipline containing its new doctrine and laws, using the same title that has been used in the United Brethren Church disciplines for many years, viz: "The Origin, Doctrine, Constitution and Discipline of the United Brethren in Christ," it seems necessary to state that the book of discipline here presented is the discipline of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and that it contains the Confession of Faith and Constitution as they have appeared in our Discipline ever since the year 1841.

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PART FIRST

PERMANENT DOCUMENTS

CHAPTER 1

Origin of the United Brethren in Christ

In the eighteenth century it pleased the Lord, our God, to awaken persons in different parts of the world, who should raise up the Christian religion from its fallen state and preach the gospel of Christ crucified in its purity.

About the middle of the said century the Lord in mercy, remembered the Germans in America, who, living scattered in this extensive country, seldom had an opportunity to hear the gospel of a crucified Savior preached to them in their native language.

Among others, he raised up **William Otterbein,** and **Martin Boehm,** in the state of Pensylvania, and **Geo. A. Geeting,** in the state of Maryland, armed them with spirit, grace and strength to labor in his neglected vineyard, and to call, among the Germans in America, sinners to repentance. These men obeyed the call of their Lord and Master. Their labors were blest, and they established in many places excellent societies and led many precious souls to Jesus Christ. Their sphere of action spread more and more, so that they found it necessary to look about for more fellow-laborers to engage in the vineyard of the Lord, for the harvest was great and the laborers few. The Lord called others, who were willing to devote their strength to his service. Such, then, were accepted by one or the other of the preachers as fellow-laborers.

The number of members in the society in different parts of the country continued to increase from time to time, and the gracious work of reformation spread through the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. Several great meetings were appointed and held annually. On such occasions **Otterbein** would hold particular conversations with the preachers then present, and represent to them the importance of the ministry and the necessity of their utmost endeavor

to save souls. At one of these meetings it was resolved to hold a conference with all the preachers, in order to take into consideration how, and in what manner they might be most useful.

The first conference was held in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, in the year of our Lord 1789. The following preachers were present:

Wm. Otterbein,	**Adam Lehman,**
Martin Boehm,	**John Ernst,**
George A. Geeting,	**Henry Weidner,**

Christian Newcomer.

The second conference was held in Paradise township, York County, Pennsylvania, at the house of **Brother Spangler,** in the year of our Lord 1791. The following preachers were present:

Wm. Otterbein,	**John Ernst,**
Martin Boehm,	**J. G. Pfrimmer,**
Geo. A. Geeting,	**Benedict Sanders**
Adam Lehman,	**John Neidig,**

Christian Newcomer.

After mature deliberation as to how they might labor most usefully in the vineyard of the Lord, they again appointed as fellow-laborers such as they had cause to believe had experienced true religion in their souls.

Meantime the number of members continued to increase, and the preachers were obliged to appoint an annual conference, in order to unite themselves more closely and to labor more successfully in the vineyard of the Lord: for some had been Presbyterian or German Reformed, some Lutherans and others Mennonites. They accordingly appointed a conference to be held on the 25th of September, 1800, in Frederick county, Maryland, at the house of **Brother Frederick Kemp.** The following preachers were present.

Wm. Otterbein,	**Christian Krum**
Martin Boehm,	**Henry Krum,**
Geo. A. Geeting,	**John Hershey,**
Adam Lehman,	**Henry Boehm**
Detrick Aurand,	**Jacob Geisinger,**
Abraham Tracksel,	**J. G. Pfrimmer,**

Christian Newcomer.

There they united themselves into a society which bears the name, "United Brethren in Christ," and elected **Wm. Otterbein and Martin Boehm** as superintendents, or bishops, and agreed that each of them should be at liberty as to the mode and manner of baptism, to perform it according to his own convictions.

From this time, the society increased still more and more, preachers were appointed to travel regularly inasmuch as the number of preaching places could not otherwise be attended to; and the work spread itself into the states of Ohio and Kentucky. It then became necessary to appoint a conference in the state of Ohio; because it was conceived too laborious for the preachers who labored in those states to travel annually such a great distance to conference.

Meanwhile **Brother Boehm and Geeting** died, and **Brother Otterbein** desired that another bishop should be elected (because infirmity and old age would not permit him to superintend any longer), who should take charge of the society, and preserve discipline and order. It was resolved at a former conference that whenever one of the bishops died another should be elected in his place. Accordingly, **Brother Christian Newcomer** was elected bishop, to take charge of and superintend the concerns of the society.

The want of a discipline in the society had long been deeply felt, and partial attempts to provide one having been made at different times it was resolved, at the conference held in the state of Ohio, that a general conference should be held in order to accomplish the same in a manner not derogatory to the word of God. The members of this conference were to be elected from among the preachers in the different parts of the country, by a vote of the society in general. The following preachers were duly elected:

Christian Newcomer,
Abraham Heistand,
Andrew Zeller,
Christian Berger,
Abraham Myer,
John Schneider,
Henry Kumler,
Daniel Troyer,
Geo. Benedum,
Abraham Tracksel,
Henry G. Spayth,
I. Nighswanger,
Christian Krum,
Jacob Bowlus.

The conference covened on the 6th of June, 1815, near Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. After mature deliberation, they presented to their brethren a discipline, containing the doctrine and rules of the church, desiring that they, together with the word of God, should be strictly observed.

God is a God of order, and where there is no order and no church discipline the spirit of love and charity will be lost.

Therefore, brethren, we beseech you to follow the example of our Lord, as it is written, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love: in honor preferring one another." "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ, * * * who took upon him the form of a servant, * * * humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross," that by His grace we may submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God. He who will not submit is in want of humble love. Jesus said, "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant." "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another;" "and he that loveth not his brother abideth in death." Let us walk in newness of life, that we may be one in Him and that He may give us the glory which He gave to His disciples, that we may be one even as He and the Father are one. Therefore, beloved brethren, let us strive to be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let no one speak or think evil of his brother; but pray God that He may grant us His Spirit and earnest desire to lead a truly devoted life, to the honor and glory of His name!

CHAPTER II

Confession of Faith

In the name of God we declare and confess before all men, that we believe in the only true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; that these three are one—the Father in the Son, the Son in the Father, and the Holy Ghost equal in essence or being with both; that this triune God created the heavens and the earth, and all that in them is, visible as well as

invisible, and furthermore, sustains, governs, protects and supports the same.

We believe in Jesus Christ; that He is very God and man; that He became incarnate by the power of the Holy Ghost in the Virgin Mary, and was born of her; that He is the Savior and Mediator of the whole human race, if they with full faith in Him accept the grace proffered in Jesus; that this Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us, was buried, arose again on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, to intercede for us; and that He shall come again at the last day to judge the quick and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Ghost; that He is equal in being with the Father and the Son, and that He comforts the faithful, and guides them into all truth.

We believe in a holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

We believe that the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, is the word of God; that it contains the only true way to our salvation; that every true Christian is bound to acknowledge and receive it with the influence of the Spirit of God, as the only rule and guide; and that without faith in Jesus Christ, true repentance, forgiveness of sins and following after Christ, no one can be a true Christian.

We also believe that what is contained in the Holy Scriptures, to-wit: the fall in Adam and redemption through Jesus Christ, shall be preached throughout the world.

We believe that the ordinances, viz: baptism and the remembrance of the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, are to be in use and practiced by all Christian societies; and that it is incumbent on all the children of God particularly to practice them; but the manner in which, ought always to be left to the judgment and understanding of every individual. Also the example of washing feet is left to the judgment of every one to practice or not; but it is not becoming of any of our preachers or members to traduce any of their brethren whose judgment and

understanding in these respects is different from their own, either in public or in private. Whosoever shall make himself guilty in this respect, shall be considered a traducer of his brethren, and shall be answerable for the same.

CHAPTER III

Constitution

We, the members of the **Church of the United Brethren in Christ,** in the name of God do, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, as well as to produce and secure a uniform mode of action, in faith and practice, also to define the powers and the business of quarterly, annual and general conferences, as recognized by this church, ordain the following articles of **Constitution:**

Article I

Section 1. All ecclesiastical power herein granted to make or repeal any rule of discipline, is vested in a general conference, which shall consist of elders, elected by the members in every conference district throughout the society; provided, however such elders have stood in that capacity three years in the conference district to which they belong.

Section 2. General Conference is to be held every four years; the bishops to be considered members and presiding officers.

Section 3. Each annual conference shall place before the society the names of all the elders eligible to membership in the General Conference.

Article II

Section 1. The General Conference shall define the boundaries of the annual conferences.

Section 2. The General Conference shall, at every session, elect bishops from among the elders throughout the church, who have stood six years in that capacity.

Section 3. The business of each annual conference shall be done strictly according to Discipline; and any annual conference acting contrary thereunto, shall,

by impeachment, be tried by the General Conference.

Section 4. No rule or ordinance shall at any time be passed to change or do away with the Confession of Faith as it now stands, nor to destroy the itinerant plan.

Section 5. There shall no rule be adopted that will infringe upon the rights of any as it relates to the mode of baptism, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or the washing of feet.

Section 6. There shall be no rule made that will deprive local preachers of their votes in the annual conferences to which they severally belong.

Section 7. There shall be no connection with secret combinations, nor shall involuntary servitude be tolerated in any way.

Section 8. The right of appeal shall be inviolate.

Article III

The right, title, interest and claim of all property, whether consisting in lots of ground, meeting houses, legacies, bequests, or donations of any kind, obtained by purchase or otherwise, by any person or persons, for the use, benefit, and behoof of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, is hereby fully recognized and held to be property of the church aforesaid.

Article IV

There shall be no alteration of the foregoing constitution, unless by request of two-thirds of the whole society

PART SECOND

MEMBERSHIP, MINISTRY AND GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER I—MEMBERSHIP

I. Committee on Membership

¶1. The pastor together with the class leader and officers of the administrative board shall constitute a class membership committee whose duty it shall be to seek out suitable persons for membership in the church, and candidates for membership may be referred to the committee for instruction or investigation. In case it shall develop that a candidate for membership is not familiar with our discipline he shall have the help of this committee to aid him to a better understanding of our doctrines and laws.

II. Admission into the Church

¶2. **Reception of Members.**—When at any time a person presents himself for membership in our church, the preacher shall, in the hearing of the congregation read the following: As a church we believe in the Deity of Jesus Christ; the regeneration of the soul; growth in grace and knowledge of the truth; perseverance in Christian service. It is the duty of all members of the church to pay to all the financial interests of the church, and toward the support of the pastor and the presiding elder, in proportion to their ability, as God has prospered them; for the Lord hath ordained that they who preach the Gospel shall live by the Gospel. (1 Cor. ix: 14; 1 Tim. v: 18.) It is the duty of our people to comply with the teaching of the New Testament in the matter of giving an amount equal at least to one-tenth of their income. We have no connection with secret combinations, nor have we sympathy with loose views concerning divorce and intemperance. Our beliefs are further indicated by the questions which follow.

The preacher shall then ask such person the following questions:

'3. **Questions to Applicants.**—Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is revealed the knowledge of the way of salvation?

Have you experienced the forgiveness of your sins, and have you now peace with God?

Are you determined by the grace of God to follow Christ, renouncing the world and all ungodliness, seeking to lead a life of holiness and devotion to God and His cause?

Are you willing to be governed by our church discipline, and to give of your means to the support of the various interests of this church according to your ability?

Have you received water baptism? If not, are you willing to be baptized at your earliest convenience?

¶4. **Applicants from Other Churches.**—Applicants by letter from other denominations shall in every case be asked the fourth question, and may be asked all the questions.

¶5. **Method of Reception.**—If the person answers the above questions in the affirmative, and no lawful objections be made by any member, the preacher shall extend to such person the right hand of fellowship receiving him, as a member of our church, and record the name on the church record and the class book provided; however, that where a society or pastor deems it advisable for the protection of the church, the class membership committee may make inquiry as to the advisability of admitting such applicants to membership in the church.

¶6. **Children in Watch-care of the Church. §1. Who Shall Be Received.** All children, under nine years of age desiring membership in our church, shall be received under the watch-care of the church. In no case shall these children be admitted into the watch-care of the church until the consent of their parents or guardians has been received by the pastor.

§2. **Instruction in Religious Education.** It shall be the duty of the pastor, or others under his supervision, to instruct them in religious education as prescribed by the General Department of Religious Education, and seek to lead them to a definite decision for Christ, unless they are already conscious of such decision.

§3. **The Time for Junior Church Membership.** After the age of nine, as these children shall give evidence that they have experienced the forgiveness of sins, and manifest a continued interest in the church, they may

become junior members by complying with the requirements for Junior Church membership.

§4. **Dropping From the Roll.** If these children under watch-care presistently refuse to seek Christ, or to receive religious instruction, their names may be dropped from the roll by the class membership committee.

§5. **Not Reported as Members.** Persons received under the watch-care of the church shall not be reported as members, nor shall they have a vote in the church. But they shall be reported as members in watch-care.

¶7. **Reception Under the Watch-care.** All children before being received under the watch-care of the church, shall be asked the following questions, by the pastor:

Do you believe the Bible to be God's book through which he speaks to us, and that in the Bible is shown the only way we can be saved from sin?

Are you willing to be taught the Bible, and what it means to be a Christian, and faithfully try to meet the requirements for membership in this church?

¶8. **Junior Membership.**

§1. All children uniting with the church between the ages of nine and twelve, after coming before the membership committee for instruction, shall be asked the following questions:

Do you believe the Bible to be the Word of God, and that therein only is revealed the knowledge of the way of salvation?

Have you asked God to forgive you your sins, and do you now believe that he accepts you as his child?

Do you promise to attend the services of the church and to read the Bible and pray, so that you may become more and more like Jesus?

Have you received water baptism? If not, are you willing to be baptised?

If these questions are answered in the affirmative, and no objections are made the preacher shall extend to such person the right hand of fellowship, and he or she shall have all rights and privileges of the church except voting powers.

§2. At the age of twelve or more those on the junior roll, who have applied themselves to study and prayer and have been born again, may become full members of the church by meeting the requirements of regular membership.

§3. The Junior roll should be corrected each year by

the membership committee and reported as junior members, and included in the total membership of the church.

III. Duties of Members

¶9. **Means of Grace.**—Every member shall attend to the ordinances of God's house; namely, baptism and the remembrance of the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ; be diligent in prayer, particularly in private, and, for his own edification, attend, when practicable, all our prayer and class-meetings, and meetings for public worship.

¶10. **Family Piety.**—Heads of families should never omit to pray with their families, morning and evening and to set them a good example in all the Christian virtues.

¶11. **Love to Others.**—Every one should walk as in the presence of God, and accustom himself to a close communion with God in all his employments; and never speak evil of his fellow-beings, but practice love toward friend and foe, do good to the poor, and endeavor to be a follower of Jesus Christ in deed.

¶12. **Obedience to Government.**—It is the duty of every member to lead a quiet, peaceable, and godly life among men, as it becomes a Christian to live in peace, and be subject to the higher or ruling powers as the word of God requires.

¶13. **Going to Law.**—Any member refusing, in case of debt or dispute, to refer the matter to arbitration, or who shall enter into a law suit with another member before these measures are taken, may be expelled, except in criminal cases or in cases of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law, as in the case of executors or administrators, or when a member is in danger of suffering an unexpected loss of property.

¶14. **Sabbath Observance.**—Everyone shall keep the Sabbath day holy, as required in the word of God; he shall neither buy nor sell, but should spend the day in exercises of devotion, in reading and hearing read the word of God, and in singing spiritual hymns to the honor and glory of God and such social converse as shall honor God.

¶15. **Sabbath School.**—It is the duty of all our members to encourage our Sabbath Schools by their pres-

ence, and always to give them their aid and influence, and favor the use of our own Sunday-school literature.

¶16. Receiving the Pastor. All districts, stations, circuits and missions shall receive the pastors appointed by the stationing committee of their respective annual conferences.

¶17. Nonconformity to the World.—Inasmuch as the Lord has commanded us not to be conformed to this world (Rom. xii: 2), to lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness (James 1: 21), and as the principles of the Christian religion as taught by both the precepts and the example of the meek and adorable Savior are in strict and perfect accordance with these commandments, we therefore admonish the members of the church to observe these divine precepts: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works, (1 Tim. ii: 9, 10); and whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." (1 Peter iii: 3-4).

¶18. Duty of Obedience.—The foregoing rules are drawn up for the better regulation of our church and we believe they are founded on the word of God, and incumbent on all who are members of our church to observe, both ministers and laymen. Should any one viciate or habitually neglect these rules, he shall be, by his pastor or class-leader, admonished to reformation; and should he not reform, he shall be suspended or expelled as the case may require.

IV. Transfer and Dismissal of Members

¶19. Transfer of Members.—§1. By a Vote of the Class.—When members who are in good standing move into the community of another of our churches they shall, by the vote of the class, be granted a certificate of transfer when desired which shall be sent by the signing pastor or leader to the pastor or leader of the church in the community to which said mem-

ber moves. If the pastor or leader of the church is not known then the granting of such certificate of transfer shall be delayed until the applicant reports to his pastor or leader. It is understood that the membership remains in the church issuing the certificate of transfer until the receiving pastor or leader notifies the pastor or leader that such certificate has been received, and that the receiving pastor or leader shall not report such member to his annual conference or record the same on the class book until such notification has been sent the signing pastor or leader. (See ¶231)

§2. **By a Pastor or Presiding Elder.**—Any member known to be in good standing who holds membership in a class having no pastor or leader, or not in reach of a class, may be given a certificate of transfer by any pastor or presiding elder; and the pastor or presiding elder shall notify the preacher in charge nearest the point to which the member moves.

'20. **Dismissal of Members.**—When members of this church desire to withdraw from the church, they may be given a letter of dismissal, by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the class to which they belong, previous announcement having been made by the pastor at a regular meeting at least one week before the vote is taken. The pastor or leader shall sign such certificate of dismissal. (See 232)

'21. **Recommendation of Members.**—When members in good standing desire to change their location without a change of membership they may, at their request, be given a letter of recommendation by a vote of the class. (See ¶233)

CHAPTER II—LAW ON TRIALS

1. Trial of Members

'22. **Preliminary to Trial.**—"If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he shall not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church, but if he neglect

to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican;" that is, he shall be expelled. But no member shall be denied the regular committee trial.

¶23. **Immoral Conduct.**—In case a member is accused of immoral conduct, the class shall appoint a committee of two from its own number to visit the accused, and, if possible, reclaim him; but if unsuccessful, he shall be tried by the society to which he belongs, or a committee thereof, chosen by the parties concerned in the following manner: the accuser shall choose one committeeman, the accused a second committeeman, and these two a third committeeman; but if these two fail to agree upon the third committeeman within fifteen days, the quarterly conference shall appoint the third committeeman. The preacher in charge of the circuit, station, or mission shall be chairman. If the accused be found guilty, he shall be suspended or expelled. If the accused refuse to choose his committeeman, he may be suspended or expelled by a vote of the society to which he belongs. Yet cases may happen where it would be expedient to choose a committee from other classes than those to which the parties belong; a presiding elder may be chosen as chairman should the preacher in charge deem it best to do so. Should any member be dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be had to the quarterly conference, by giving notice thereof to the preacher in charge or the secretary of the trial, within thirty days after said trial, together with his reasons for such appeal; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish the quarterly conference with a certified copy of the proceedings of the trial and of the notice of appeal. In such case, however, the same person shall not sit in judgment on the same case.

¶24. **Disobedience to the Order of the Church.**—In case of neglect of duty of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging sinful tempers or words, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the church, first let private reproof be given by the pastor or leader; and if there be an acknowledgement of the fault, proper humiliation, and a promise to reform, the person may be borne with. On a second offense, the

pastor or leader shall take with him one or two faithful members. However if the accused deny guilt he may not be expelled without a regular trial as provided in ¶23 of this chapter. On a third offense, let the case be brought before the society or class, or a select committee thereof, and if there be no satisfactory humiliation, the offender shall be expelled.

In case of trial under this clause, the leader shall act in behalf of the church, or if the leader be the offender, the secretary of the administrative board shall act as prosecutor. No charges shall be entertained unless given in writing, and duly subscribed.

¶25. **Disputes.**—In case of disputes between members, the pastor shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and, if necessary, shall recommend to the contending parties a reference to an arbitrating committee, consisting of one arbitrator chosen by the plaintiff, another by the defendant, and a third by these two; if these two fail to agree upon the third arbitrator within fifteen days, the quarterly conference shall appoint the third arbitrator; these three shall hear the case and decide. But if the pastor shall refuse or neglect to act, the quarterly conference shall appoint one to carry out the rule; and if either or both disputants refuse to choose an arbitrator, the quarterly conference shall appoint the first and second, and these two a third, but if these two fail to agree upon the third arbitrator within fifteen days the quarterly conference shall appoint the third arbitrator; these three shall hear the case and decide.

¶26. **Right of Appeal.**—Should either be dissatisfied with the decision, such may have a right to an appeal to the next quarterly conference for a second arbitration where each party shall choose two arbitrators, and the four shall choose a fifth, a decision of a majority of whom shall be final. Any person refusing to abide by this decision shall be expelled without further trial.

¶27. **Going to Law Forbidden.**—Any member refusing in case of debt or dispute to refer the matter to arbitration, or who shall enter into a law suit, with another member before these measures are taken, may be expelled, except in cases of such a nature as

to require and justify a process at law, as in the case of executors or administrators, or when a member is in danger of suffering an unexpected loss of property.

¶28. **Records of Trials.**—Every class leader shall keep a record of the proceedings of church trials in a book provided for that purpose; and it shall be his duty in case of an appeal, to furnish his record to the quarterly conference.

¶29. **Order in Trials.**—All church trials shall be conducted in a consistent Christian manner, without the employment of magistrates or attorneys to administer oaths and conduct investigations. The accused shall have the right to be presented by counsel who shall be a member of the church.

II. Trial of Exhorters and Quarterly Conference Preachers

¶30. **Method of Procedure.**—When an exhorter or quarterly conference preacher is accused of any misdemeanor, the leader or the secretary of the administrative board, to whom the charges with specifications shall be presented in writing, shall prosecute the case and shall inquire into the nature of the complaints, and if there be ground for charges he shall present to the accused a copy of the charges and notify him to choose a committeeman, and the prosecutor shall choose a second committeeman; these two a third; but if these two fail to agree upon the third committeeman within fifteen days, the quarterly conference shall appoint the third committeeman, and this committee shall try the case, the preacher in charge being chairman. If the accused fail to choose a committeeman within fifteen days the quarterly conference shall choose the first and second committeemen, and these two a third; but if these two fail to agree upon the third committeeman within fifteen days, the quarterly conference shall appoint the third committeeman, and this committee shall hear the case and decide. If the accused is found guilty, he shall be silenced; provided, however, either party shall have the right of appeal to the next quarterly conference for a new trial.

¶31. **Appeal from the Decision of a Quarterly Conference.**—Any exhorter or preacher dissatisfied with

the decision of a quarterly conference may appeal to the ensuing annual conference, by giving notice to the secretary in writing of his intention to appeal, together with his reason for so doing, and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish a certified copy of the proceedings, the notifications, and reasons assigned, to the annual conference.

III. Trial of Annual Conference Preachers

¶32. Preliminary Considerations of Trial.—Accusations limited to personal trespass require a preliminary compliance with Matt. 18: 15, 16.

Should an annual conference preacher who is guilty of immorality, trespass, imprudent conduct, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the church, make confession of the fact prior to trial, he shall cease to preach, except by permission of the presiding elder of the district, until the meeting of his conference. The conference shall then consider his case and dispose of it as, in view of all the circumstances, may seem just and right.

¶33. Method of Procedure.—§1. Plan for the Trial.—In case an annual conference preacher is accused of any of the aforementioned offenses, which accusation must be in writing, and does not make confession of his guilt, the quarterly conference to which he is amenable shall appoint another annual conference preacher, who shall take with him another preacher, an exhorter, or a leader, and investigate the accusation. If it shall appear that said reports are well founded, they shall be required to prefer charges, with specifications in writing against the accused; if not they shall report to the next quarterly conference that they found no cause for action. If charges are preferred, the next quarterly conference shall appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to notify the accused in writing, of all the charges preferred against him. He shall also notify him to choose an elder as his committeeman, the prosecutor choosing an elder also as a committeeman, in behalf of the church, and they two a third elder or preacher, but if these two fail to agree upon the third committeeman within fifteen days, the quarterly conference shall appoint

the third committeeman, before which committee the case shall be tried. The prosecutor shall also notify the presiding elder of the district within whose bounds said cause of accusation occurred who shall act as chairman, except such presiding elder shall be incompetent on account of relationship, or interest, or being a witness in the case; in which case the prosecutor shall notify the bishop, who shall appoint a chairman. If the offender or prosecutor be a presiding elder, a bishop shall appoint a chairman of the case. If the offender be a bishop, the remaining bishops shall act as chairmen.

And it shall be the duty of the chairman to appoint the time and place of trial, giving not less than twenty or more than forty days notice, to the parties concerned, of said trial; and he shall also act as chairman in the case.

§2. **Result of Trial.**—Should the committee be satisfied that the accusation is sustained, the accused shall cease to preach except by permission of the committee, until the annual conference, where he shall be accountable; and it shall be the duty of the committee to transmit in writing the entire proceedings of said trial to the annual conference, where the accused shall have a hearing before the conference, or a select committee thereof; and if the findings are sustained he shall be suspended or expelled, as the conference may determine, unless, because of repentance or restitution, the conference shall be satisfied that he should be pardoned. But should the accused, after having been duly notified, refuse or neglect to choose his committeeman or to notify the prosecutor of his choice within fifteen days, the presiding elder shall suspend him until the annual conference, where, if he shall refuse to appear, he shall be dealt with according to the judgment of the conference; provided, however, if he be an elder, elders only shall vote in the case.

¶34. **Annual Conference Trial Course.**—Whenever a written accusation of any of the said aforementioned offenses shall be first lodged with the annual conference against one of its preachers, and it shall deem

it best to place the accusation upon a trial course, the foregoing course shall be pursued; except that the annual conference shall appoint a committee to act instead of a quarterly conference, in the appointment of a preacher to lead in the investigation, and to hear the report on the investigation, and to appoint a prosecutor if the accusation appears to be well founded, and to appoint a third committeeman when the two committeemen chosen fail to agree on the choice of the third.

¶35. **Appeal from the Decision of Annual Conference.**—Any member of an annual conference who may be dissatisfied with the decision of his conference shall, within thirty days after the session of the annual conference, notify the secretary of said conference of his intention to appeal to the General Conference, together with his reason for so doing; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish the General Conference with a certified copy of the notice, and the reason thereof, and of the proceedings of the annual conference in the case.

IV. Impeachment of an Annual Conference

¶36. **Method of Impeachment.—§1. Ground of Impeachment.**—In case complaints or rumors as to maladministration, or disobedience to the Constitution or Discipline of the church, in any annual conference or bounds thereof, should be considered sufficiently grave to one-fifth of the members of the General Conference to warrant a trial for impeachment, they may order such trial by filing a written request with their names signed thereto to the Board of Bishops, who shall appoint a committee of seven members of the General Conference who shall constitute a trial committee. The bishops shall notify the delegates of the accused conference of their right to appear in defense of their conference; an equal number of the first signers of the order shall present themselves as prosecutors.

§2. **Committee Regulations.**—The committee shall adopt such rules to govern its sittings and deliberations as it deems best, in harmony with our customs and usages, and shall adjudge as to the guilt or innocence of the conference accused. In case innocence

is established, they shall so report to the General Conference. In case guilt is established they shall so report, with recommendations fixing the penalty or penalties adjudged due the offender. The General Conference may adopt these recommendations, or modify them as in its wisdom it sees fit and impose the penalty or penalties agreed upon.

CHAPTER III. THE MINISTRY

I. Deaconesses

¶37. Deaconesses.—§1. Qualifications.—A deaconess is a woman, who led by the Holy Spirit, gives herself wholly to Christian service under authority of the church. She must be of suitable age, health, ability, culture, and piety.

§2. How Licensed.—When any sister desires to become a deaconess she may make application to her presiding elder, who, or a committee appointed by him, shall examine her and report to the quarterly conference the result of the examination. When the quarterly conference shall approve of her application she shall receive license as a deaconess in the local church. Said license shall be subject to annual renewal.

§3. Duties.—It shall be the duty of a deaconess to visit from house to house, ministering to spiritual and temporal needs through song, exhortation, prayer, reading, teaching, giving solace and comfort to the distressed; to nurse the sick and minister to the needy; to distribute religious literature; to solicit supplies or funds and distribute to the needy. She shall be under the direction of the pastor and shall report to him as often as he may require. She shall not be required to look after the finances of the church.

§4. Salary.—The local church where she serves must provide for any necessary expense and such salary as may be mutually agreed upon for her service. However, inasmuch as the deaconess' work is a high and holy calling to sacrificial service, encouragement should be given to those who enter upon it to do so for the love of Christ.

§5. Release from Office.—Upon proper notice the quarterly conference shall release any person desiring to retire from this office, and no person entering upon

this work shall be requested to take a perpetual vow.

§6. Quarterly Conference Member. A deaconess shall be a member of the quarterly conference where she holds her class membership and where she serves, and shall be responsible thereto for her moral and official character.

§7. Examinations in Studies.—If deficient in the common school branches she shall pass an examination in Grammar, History (United States or English), and Reading. Examinations shall be conducted by the presiding elder and pastor annually, or a part of the course quarterly as she may desire.

§8. Completing Course of Study.—She shall complete the course of study for deaconess within three years or her license shall not be renewed.

§9. Permanent License.—On the completion of the course of study and two years' service under the direction of a pastor, or an equivalent course in a training school or literary school providing such course, approved by the book committee, a deaconess shall be consecrated to this service (but not by the laying on of hands), by a bishop and receive a permanent license. Upon the presentation of this license she may be given membership in the annual conference with all the privileges of a lay delegate except voting.

§10. Uniform.—A deaconess may provide herself with a uniform costume to distinguish and protect her.

§11. Course of Study.—1. **Duty of Book Committee**—The book committee shall prescribe the course of study for deaconesses and prepare the questions for examination on the same.

2. **First Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Bible—The Four Gospels; United Brethren Church Discipline—Parts First, Second and Third; Passion for Men — Hallenback; The Unfolding Life — Lamoreaux; United Brethren Church History, Vol. I—Lawrence; How to Live—Fisher and Fisk. Essay—The Deaconess as a Social Worker in Her Relation to the Home.

3. **Second Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Bible—The Acts of the Apostles; Supplemental Bible Studies—Sell; United Brethren Church Discipline—Parts Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh; The

Psychology of Early Adolescence—Mudge; History of the Deaconess Movement—Golder; Every Member Evangelism—Conant; A Manual of Personal Hygiene—Pyle; United Brethren Church History, Vol. II—Lawrence. Essay—Reaching the Mothers Through Ministrations to the Children.

II. Exhorters and Quarterly Conference Preachers

¶38. Licensing.—Persons may be granted license to exhort, or quarterly conference license to preach for one year upon a written request to the quarterly conference signed by a majority of the resident members of the society to which such persons belong; provided, however, that none shall receive license who can not give satisfactory evidence of their call, experience, soundness in doctrine, and attachment to our church and government.

¶39. Examination of Applicants.—Examiners: ¶109, §3), §1. Educational Requirements and Questions.—All applicants for quarterly conference license to preach (this does not apply to applicants to exhort) must give evidence of educational attainments equivalent to the completion of a public school course through the eighth grade in the United States of America, or through the same equivalent in the Dominion of Canada, either by presenting a certificate showing graduation from such a course, or a certificate of having passed a successful examination on the required subjects given by a person competent to conduct such an examination; and answer satisfactorily the following questions:

1. Do you believe our Confession of Faith as set forth in our book of Discipline?

2. Have you now peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ?

3. What is your motive in desiring permission to preach the gospel?

4. Are you satisfied with the reform principles and the government of the church, and will you maintain them on all proper occasions?

5. Will you submit yourself to the official counsel of your brethren in the Lord?

6. Define depravity, redemption, faith, repentance, regeneration and sanctification.

7. Is it your purpose, if received, to remain permanently with the church?

8. Will you pursue the course of study for Quarterly Conference preachers?

9. Will you abstain from the use of tobacco?

§2. **The Chairman's Privilege.**—It shall be the privilege of the chairman to ask any other question he may deem necessary. No applicant shall be licensed whose marriage relations are not in harmony with the word of God, and who indulges in the use of tobacco, and who will not agree to pursue the course of study.

'40. Singing Evangelist.—§1. How Constituted.—Any one desiring license as a singing evangelist must present a written recommendation to the quarterly conference signed by the pastor and one-half of the membership of the society to which he belongs. To any suitable person of this church who has qualified himself, and presents the said recommendation, the quarterly conference may grant a license as a singing evangelist.

§2. **Duties.**—The singing evangelist shall be required to labor in our church as much as possible, and shall assist pastors in revival meetings, organize, instruct and drill classes and choruses in vocal music. The course of study, and examinations in the same, shall be the first year's course for quarterly conference preachers, with its examiners to conduct the examinations.

§3. **Official Relation.**—The singing evangelist shall be a member of the quarterly conference, and to it the singing evangelist shall render a written report every quarter. The license shall be permanent during good behavior, but may be revoked by the quarterly conference for misconduct or proven unfitness for the position. Measures for the remuneration of the singing evangelist may be taken by the quarterly conference as it shall deem proper.

'41. Receiving Preachers from Other Churches.—If ministers from other churches who have not met the requirements in the branches for admission to the quarterly conference, or in the quarterly conference course of study for admission to the annual conference,

come to us with certificates of good standing in the society in which they have had membership, and give satisfaction to the quarterly conference by examination in the common branches, the doctrines, discipline, government, reform principles and usages of our church, then the quarterly conference may license them with the understanding that the quarterly conference relation continue for at least one year, when if their conduct and doctrine be in accord with the gospel of Christ, and they have met the requirements for admission in the annual conference, they may be received.

¶42. **Renewal of License.**—The license of an exhorter or a quarterly conference preacher is subject to renewal annually by the vote of the quarterly conference, and the fact of the renewal shall be designated on the license by the presiding elder or chairman.

¶43. **Permanent License.** — Quarterly conference preachers having passed the course of study required by discipline may be granted permanent license not subject to annual renewal.

¶44. **Recommending to the Annual Conference.—§1. Quarterly Conference Requirement.**—After quarterly conference preachers (not exhorters) have stood in that capacity one year the quarterly conference may recommend them to the annual conference, provided they have passed a creditable examination on the first two years of the course of study for quarterly conference preachers.

§2. **Relation if Not Received.**—All preachers recommended to the annual conference, and not received, may retain their former relation.

¶45. **Duties of Exhorters and Quarterly Conference Preachers.—§1.** It shall be the duty of exhorters and quarterly conference preachers to make appointments to exhort and preach whenever acceptable to the people, to read portions of sacred scripture and to exhort and preach therefrom; exhorting saints that they with purpose of heart should cleave to the Lord, and sinners to flee from the wrath to come; and this they shall do as often as practicable.

§2. All exhorters and quarterly conference preachers are required to have membership in some society, and

upon neglect or refusal to do so they shall lose their official relation.

§3. They shall pursue the course of study prescribed in our book of Discipline, and shall be examined upon it annually and the examiners shall report the same at the fourth quarterly conference of the conference year.

§4. Should any licentiate fail to complete the course of study within five years his license shall not be subject to renewal, unless a reasonable excuse can be given for such failure.

§5. Quarterly conference preachers are required to complete the first two years of the quarterly conference course of study before being admitted to the annual conference; they to be permitted to complete this portion of the course in one year.

III. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PREACHERS

'46. How Received.—Educational Requirements of Applicants for License.—§1. Every person recommended to the annual conference for license to preach shall give evidence of educational attainments equivalent to the completion of a public school course half way through the standard high school grade; or to the completion of half the standard academic course necessary to entering the freshman class of a standard college. Provided, however, that persons who have been out of school for a number of years, or are not within attending distance of a high school, but manifest ample evidence of being capable of pursuing a standard course of study efficiently, may be admitted. The ideal preparation for effective work in the ministry is a full college and theological course, to which standard we earnestly urge our young ministers to aspire.

§2. **Examination on Special Questions.**—He shall answer satisfactorily the following questions:

1. Have you an experience assuring you of the forgiveness of sins through our Lord Jesus Christ?
2. Have you peace with God; and is the love of God sned abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit?
3. Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is revealed the true way to salvation?
4. What reason have you for such belief?
5. Do you follow after holiness?

6. What is your motive for desiring permission to preach the gospel, and why do you desire a license from the annual conference?

7. Do you believe that man apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is fallen from original righteousness and is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually; and that except a man be born again he can not see the kingdom of God?

8. Define depravity, redemption, faith, repentance, justification, regeneration, and sanctification.

9. Does your own salvation, and the salvation of your fellow-men, lie nearer to your heart than all other things in the world?

10. Will you agree to abide by the official action of your conference and church in all matters pertaining to your ministry?

11. Are you satisfied with the reform principles and the government of our church, and will you maintain them on all proper occasions?

12. Are you willing as much as is in your power to assist in upholding our itinerant plan?

13. Is it your purpose, if received, to remain permanently with this church?

14. Will you diligently pursue the course of study prescribed for annual conference preachers?

§3. **Duty of Bishop.**—When applicants are received into the annual conference the presiding bishop, or some one selected by him, shall read ¶68 (Preachers in General—Duties) to them with such comments as he may deem proper.

¶47. **Qualifications of Applicants.**—§1. **Requirements.**—None can be admitted without having a recommendation from the quarterly conference, nor without having passed a creditable examination on the first two years of the course of study for quarterly conference preachers; but if the conference should, on examination, find that the candidate's abilities are insufficient to preach the gospel, it may refer him back to the quarterly conference for further instruction.

§2. **Special Questions.**—Applicants for license to preach shall answer to the examining board the fol-

lowing questions in writing before he may be received into the annual conference:

1. Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Christian ministry?

2. Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco?

§3. Licensing Women.—There shall be no discrimination between men and women in granting ministerial credentials.

§4. Marriage Relation, Tobacco.—No person shall be licensed to preach whose marriage relations are not in harmony with the word of God, or who indulges in the use of tobacco.

§5. Surrender of Credentials.—Any preacher licensed under this rule who afterwards indulges in the use of tobacco, shall be compelled to surrender his credentials to the annual conference.

¶48. An Expelled Preacher.—When a preacher or elder has been expelled or informally withdraws from one annual conference, he shall not be received into another without the consent of the conference from which he has been expelled or from which he has withdrawn; and when such an expulsion or withdrawal has occurred, his credentials are nullified, and notice of the same shall be sent by the secretary of the annual conference to the editor of the Christian Conservator for publication.

¶49. Preachers from Other Churches.—If preachers from other churches who have met the requirements in the common branches and the quarterly conference course of study for admission to the annual conference, come to us with certificates of good standing in the church in which they have held membership, or with transfers from a conference, presbytery or synod and give satisfaction to the annual conference concerning their agreement on the doctrines, discipline, government, reform principles, and usages of our church, the conference may receive them, and shall require them to pursue in whole or in part the conference course of study, unless they give satisfactory evidence of having completed a course of study equivalent to that required by this church. If they be ordained elders, they must pass the examination re-

quired of candidates for elders' orders, but they may be exempt from the laying on of hands.

¶50. **Classification of Ministers.**—Annual conference ministers shall be classified, (1) as elders and licentiates, (2) as itinerants and locals.

§1 **Elders.**—An elder is one who, having completed the course of study is set apart to the office by the laying on of hands.

§2. **Licentiates.**—A licentiate is one who has not yet completed the course of study, or who has not yet been ordained. No licentiate shall administer the Lord's supper nor administer water baptism, except as an assistant; nor solemnize marriage unless in charge of a field of labor.

§3. **Itinerants.**—An itinerant is one who has been elected to the itineracy.

Itinerants may be designated as (1) active, (2) inactive, (3) superannuated.

§4. **Active.**—An active itinerant is one who is in charge of a regular field of labor.

§5. **Inactive.**—An inactive itinerant is one who has been temporarily excused from taking regular work, or for whom, for the time, the conference has no work.

§6. **Superannuated.** A superannuated itinerant is one, who, by vote of the conference, has been permanently excused from the regular work.

§7. **Local.**—A local minister is one who has not been admitted to the itineracy.

¶51. **Preachers' Class Connections.—§1. Required Membership.**—All annual conference preachers are required to have membershsip in some class and upon neglect or refusal to do so shall lose their official relation.

§2. **Received on His Credentials.**—An annual conference member may be received into a class on his ministerial credentials, so long as said credentials are held in force by the conference to which he is amenable.

¶52. **Preacher's Transfer.—§1. Requirement for Entrance to Another Conference.**—A preacher moving from one conference to another, shall when he applies to the latter for admission, present a transfer from

the conference to which he formerly belonged to the conference to which he applies for admission, signed by the presiding officer, or published in the minutes of the conference from which he has been transferred. No person shall be received into a conference by transfer until said transfer has been granted by a vote of his conference.

§2. **Time Limit of Transfer.** A preacher or elder who receives a transfer is required to present said transfer to another conference, within two years after its date. Otherwise, the transfer shall be null and void, and the name of the preacher shall be published as no longer connected with our church as a minister.

§3. **Transferred Preacher's Membership.**—A preacher receiving a transfer shall be a member of the quarterly conference within the bounds of the charge in which he may reside and be accountable to the annual conference granting the transfer until it has been received by the conference to which he has been transferred, or until the transfer expires by limitation.

¶53. **Elder's Election.**—After a probation of four years, a preacher may be presented to the annual conference for elders' orders, if he has passed the prescribed course of study, whereupon the bishop shall propose to the conference the following questions:

¶54. **Questions Regarding a Candidate.—§1. Questions to Be Asked:—**

1. Is he blameless touching the marriage relation?
2. Is his deportment in the social circle marked with watchful sobriety?
3. Is he hospitable toward the afflicted and needy?
4. Is he faithful in the public administration of God's word, and diligent in reading and study?
5. Is his household subject to rules of piety?

§2. **Committee for Further Examination.**—Should the above questions be answered in the affirmative, a committee of three elders shall be appointed, before whom the candidate shall appear, and answer the following questions:

¶55. **Examination.—§1. Questions to Be Asked:—**

1. What are your reasons for believing the Bible to be the word of God?

2. How do you prove the fall of man by transgression?

3. How do you prove the redemption of man by Jesus Christ?

4. Do you believe in the Godhead of Jesus Christ?

5. What reason have you for such belief?

6. Do you believe in the doctrine of the Holy Ghost as presented in our confession of faith?

7. Upon what evidence do you believe this?

8. Do you believe in future everlasting punishment?

9. Is it your purpose, if ordained, to remain permanently with this church?

§2. **The Committee's Privilege.** It shall be the privilege of the committee, at the close, to propose any question touching the answers given. It shall also be their duty to make out, sign and deliver to the conference a report on each case which may have been before them.

§3. **Election to Ordination.**—If the committee and conference find the candidate worthy, he may be elected to ordination by a majority of the votes of the elders of the conference. (See¶53 and ¶225.)

¶56. **Duties of Elders.**—It is the duty of an elder to preach the gospel, to baptize, to administer the Lord's Supper, to solemnize marriages, to perform all parts of divine service, to be an example to the flock of Christ by imitating his moral example, and in a very special manner it shall be the duty of an elder to cherish and encourage young ministers, and always be looking for those whom God has called to preach, and advise them to take up the cross, and begin the work without delay, that the labor of the gospel harvest may be faithfully performed.

IV. Itinerants

¶57. **How Constituted.**—All are itinerants who propose themselves without reserve, after having traveled two years as annual conference preachers under the direction of the stationing committee or presiding elder, and who have been received as such by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the conference.

¶58. **Withdrawal from the Itineracy.**—If any one who is received, as above stated, shall cease to travel without giving satisfaction to the conference of which

he is a member, he shall not be entitled to any support from the funds belonging to said conference or from the General Preachers' Aid Fund. And furthermore, he shall not re-enter the itineracy without the consent of at least two-thirds of the conference. Yet inactive and superannuated relations shall be duly recognized as in accordance with this section and may be secured to any brother having just claims thereto by a vote of the conference.

V. Pastors in Charge

¶59. Stationing of Pastors.—The presiding elders of the past and present years with an equal number of preachers who are not to be employed, elected by ballot, together with the presiding bishop, who shall be chairman, shall constitute a stationing committee, whose duty it shall be to supply all the circuits, stations and missions, with pastors, as far as practicable, from the list of itinerants. The stationing committee shall have at least two meetings before its work is completed.

¶60. Report of Stationing Committee.—The report of the stationing committee shall be read before adjournment of conference.

¶61. Appeal from Stationing Committee's Report.—If any of the preachers thus stationed, or of those who may not receive an appointment are dissatisfied they shall have a right to appeal to the annual conference. If two-thirds grant the appeal, the report of the stationing committee may be changed; however, no preacher stationed by said committee shall be changed without his consent, to accommodate the preacher asking such appeal.

¶62. Duties of Pastor.—§1. Accepting the Charge.—He shall take the charge assigned him willingly and move to it if practicable, and attend the appointments and hold class meetings when practicable.

§2. Reading Discipline.—A pastor is required to read to each society once a year, the Confession of Faith, the section on Duties of Members and of Class Leaders, and the chapter on Moral Reform.

§3. Correction of Class Membership Records.—He, in connection with the class leader and the administrative board, shall constitute a class member-

ship committee who shall, at least one month before annual conference, correct the class membership records, and report to the society the names of all members remaining on the roll. No name shall be erased from the record until the disciplinary steps have been taken. (See ¶18, Duty of Obedience).

§4. The Eelection of Class Leader.—He shall hold a society meeting and see that a class leader is elected.

§5. Pastor's Pass Book. — Every pastor shall prepare a convenient book to pass to his successor, which shall contain a record of the names of each class and of the members thereof, indicating official relations; it shall also contain a list of the names of all subscribers to our church periodicals, and the time of the expiration of their subscriptions.

§6. Reports.—He shall render a strict account (in writing) of the number of sermons preached, the number of pastoral visits made, the number of different families visited, and the number of visits to the sick, and his other work at each quarterly conference, where he is to be held accountable for neglect of duty.

§7. Circulation of Literature.—It shall be his duty to use every laudable effort to circulate our books and church periodicals, and to use due diligence to advance the interests of the Publishing Establishment.

It shall be his duty to report the number of subscribers to our periodicals on his field of labor at each quarterly conference, and he shall be examined by the presiding elder and quarterly conference as to whether he performs his duty in circulating the periodicals of the church among the people of his charge.

§8. Dissmissal of Appointments.—No preacher shall dismiss any appointment from his circuit, or mission, without the consent of the quarterly conference.

§9. Historical Society Record.—He shall see that each society under his care shall have a permanent historical record in which he shall register the name of each member. He shall also make a record of all the baptisms, marriages, deaths and other data and shall report this record to the last quarterly conference of each year for approval or improvement. This book shall be the property of the society and shall be in addition to the regular class books and circuit books.

§10. General Budget.—It shall be the duty of a preacher in charge of a circuit, station or mission to distribute missionary circulars, self denial envelopes, educational circulars and other literature authorized by the annual conference, or by any of the boards of the church. He shall faithfully present both the local and general budgets of the church.

§11. Pastoral Visiting.—It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of a circuit, station or mission, to give as much of his time as possible to visiting the families and individuals under his charge; to visiting the sick and providing for their care when need be; and to pay strict attention to the young members under his care, and as far as practicable, organize them into United Brethren Christian Endeavor societies. We believe that this private work of visiting from house to house and exhorting the people is founded or implied in these solemn words of the apostle: "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly and from house to house." Acts 20: 20.

§12. Evangelistic Work.—It shall be the duty of all pastors to make use of every laudable effort to enlarge the borders of our Zion, to spread scriptural holiness, and to report to their respective annual conferences the number of new appointments obtained. He shall employ no evangelist who has not received the endorsement of the Conference Council of Administration.

§13. Pastor's Report to Annual Conference.—Every pastor shall render an annual report to the annual conference, which shall conform to the chart formulated by the Board of Administration; also other items as may be required by the annual conference.

§14. Pastor's Resignation.—Should a pastor desire to leave the work assigned him he must first inform the presiding elder of his resignation, by writing, and should any one leave or neglect his field, except it be on account of sickness or other unavoidable circumstances, he shall be accountable to the next annual conference.

§15. Removal of Pastor.—The bishop, together with the presiding elder, shall have power to remove, for

sufficient cause, any preacher from his field to which he has been assigned or appointed, and they shall supply the vacancy.

VI. Evangelists

¶63. Evangelist Defined.—An evangelist is one who has been appointed to that relation by the annual conference of which he is a member.

¶64. Duties of Evangelists.—§1. It shall be the duty of the evangelist to establish new appointments and organize new societies in unoccupied territory and to aid pastors when called for, either in his own conference or elsewhere.

§2. No evangelist shall accept employment on a conference district, without the consent of the Conference Council of Administration.

VII. Bureau of Evangelism

¶65. How Constituted.—The board of bishops, the missionary secretary, the general secretary of Religious Education, the editors and the publishing agent shall constitute a Bureau of Evangelism.

¶66. Duties.—They may employ evangelists, secure funds for carrying forward the work, direct evangelistic campaigns within the various conference districts, conduct evangelistic councils, enter new territory and engage in other evangelistic activities such as in their judgment would bring glory to God and further the interests of the church.

VIII. Inactive Itinerants and Unemployed Local Preachers

¶67. Duties.—It shall be the duty of inactive itinerants and unemployed local preachers, as far as practicable, to take up new appointments and organize new societies in unoccupied territory under the direction of the quarterly conference and the presiding elder of the district, and to aid their respective pastors when requested by him to do so.

IX. Preachers in General

¶68. Duties.—§1. It shall be the duty of preachers to preach Christ crucified; to form classes, and report the same to the annual conference; converse with the members on the spiritual condition of their souls; administer relief, strengthen and direct those that are afflicted and that labor under temptations; animate

the indolent; endeavor as much as possible to edify and instruct all in faith, in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ; visit the sick, strive to enforce and confirm the doctrine they deliver by a well ordered and exemplary life.

§2. Preachers should be diligent, never trifle away their time; always be serious. Their motto should be, "Holiness unto the Lord!" They should avoid all vain conversation, converse sparingly, conduct themselves prudently with the opposite sex, and demean themselves in all respects as true Christians. They should believe evil of no one without good evidence. They should put the best construction on everything.

§3. They should speak evil of no one. Whatever may be their thoughts, they should keep them within their own breasts until they can tell the person concerned what they think wrong in his conduct.

§4. Their business should be to save as many souls as possible. To this employment they should give themselves wholly. They should visit those who need it, and act in all things, not according to their own will, but as sons in the gospel; for as such it becomes their duty to employ their time in the manner prescribed in preaching, and in visiting from house to house, in instruction and prayer, and in meditating on the word of God. With these they should be occupied until our Lord shall come.

¶69. **Preachers Not to Trespass.—§1.** No preacher shall arbitrarily form a circuit, mission, or station, within the limits of a circuit or presiding elder district, or receive members into the church, or receive compensation for labor performed without the consent of the presiding elder or preacher in charge, nor shall any minister preaching in a different language accept a call from any regularly organized class or congregation which does not belong to his conference, without the consent of the annual conference to which the charge making the request may belong.

§2. No preacher, after he shall have ceased to sustain the relation of pastor to a field, shall either in person, by letter or other communication, interfere with the work of his successor. Any violation of this rule shall be considered trespassing.

§3. Any preacher violating the provisions of this section shall be amenable to his quarterly or annual conference.

X. Presiding Elders

¶70. Election and Stationing of Elders.—§1. Election.—The annual conference shall elect presiding elders by ballot. A majority of the whole number of votes shall be necessary to a choice. Provided, however, in the case of mission conferences, the presiding bishop shall appoint the presiding elder, subject to the approval of the Parent Board of Missions.

§2. **How Stationed.**—Presiding elders shall be stationed by the bishop and two preachers from each presiding elder district.

¶71. Duties and Powers of Presiding Elders.—§1. It shall be the duty of the presiding elder to travel through the district appointed him, and to preach as often as practicable.

§2. He shall appoint the quarterly meetings and attend them. He shall hold quarterly conferences and administer the ordinances of God's house. He shall inquire whether the preachers do their duty, and exhort them to maintain discipline and order, love and seriousness in the society. He may also call extra sessions, but notice of such sessions must be given to all the resident members thereof.

§3. It shall be his duty to make strict inquiry to see if each pastor has received the amount of salary due him, and in case of a deficiency to make an earnest effort to secure the balance due.

§4. It shall be his duty to read ¶80, 81, 82, (Duties in General) once each year at a quarterly meeting on each field of labor on his district.

§5. It shall be his duty, in consultation or correspondence with the bishop of the district, to fill all vacancies in the pastorates of the conference.

§6. When churches do not have pastoral supervision during the conference year, or during the closing month of a year, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder to exercise oversight of such churches and to make a report of the same to the annual conference.

§7. Each presiding elder shall give a quarterly report in writing, of his district to his bishop. He shall

also give a report in writing annually to the annual conference.

§8. Should any district, through death, resignation, or otherwise be without a presiding elder, information shall be immediately given to the bishop, who shall appoint an elder to preside in said district until the ensuing annual conference.

He shall be amenable to the annual conference for the faithful performance of these duties.

¶72. **Support of Presiding Elders.**—It shall be the duty of each annual conference to make such regulations for the support of the presiding elders as they in their wisdom may think best calculated to accomplish the desired end, and provide a house and move him at their expense.

XI. Bishops

¶73. **Election of Bishops.**—The General Conference shall elect bishops for the term of four years, by a majority of the whole number of votes. The bishops must be capable of attending the conferences and mid-year councils appointed them; otherwise they can not be bishops.

¶74. **Holding of Conferences.**—The bishops shall arrange the times of holding the several conferences, and all the bishops shall devote their whole time to their respective districts; provided, however, that they shall have the privilege of making such temporary interchanges as the welfare of their districts may demand.

The bishops shall be required to live on their districts and the district shall provide a suitable residence. Provided, however, that they may be permitted to reside at Huntington, Indiana.

¶75. **Salaries of Bishops.**—The General Conference, after fixing the salary of the bishops, shall assess said salary, together with the amount necessary for moving and traveling expenses to the conferences according to their several abilities.

Each annual conference shall apportion its respective part of the salary of its bishop annually, to the several fields of labor in its bounds according to the ability thereof.

¶76. **Duties and Powers of Bishops.**—§1. **Presiding**

Over Conferences.—It shall be the duty of the bishops to preside over the annual and general conferences, and strictly examine into the moral and official character of the members of the annual conferences in the bounds of their districts, and insist upon it that all the laws of the church be faithfully executed. He shall also appoint and preside over the semi-annual meetings of the Conference Council of Administration upon his district.

§2. **Stationing Committees.**—The presiding bishop shall be chairman of the committees to station the traveling preachers and presiding elders.

§3. **Ordination of Preachers.**—It shall be their duty to perform the right of ordination at the annual conferences, and at such other times and places as circumstances may require, but only upon such persons as have passed the usual examination required of candidates for ordination, by a committee of three elders chosen for that purpose by one of the bishops.

§4. **Annual Meeting.**—The bishops shall hold annual meetings, in which they shall determine the time of holding the annual conferences, decide questions of discipline, adopt measures to secure uniformity in their administration, counsel on the general interests of the church, and when circumstances demand, appoint fast and thanksgiving seasons.

§5. **Organizing Mission Conferences.**—In conjunction with the board of missions, a bishop shall have power to organize mission conferences.

§6. **In Mission Fields.**—The bishops shall devote as much of their time as possible, consistent with other duties, to visiting our missions, exploring new fields, and working upon the general financial and educational interests of the church.

§7. **Annual Sermon.**—It shall be the duty of the bishops to see that a suitable sermon be delivered to the preachers present at each annual conference.

§8. **Collection at Conference.**—The bishop shall take a collection and subscription some time during the session of each conference for some general interest of the church.

§9. **Holding Revivals.**—It shall be the further duty of the bishops to assist in revival efforts, especially on

the weaker fields of labor, on their districts, for the free-will offerings of the people, when opportunity is afforded them and they are not engaged in other duties of their office.

§10. **Reports.**—Each bishop shall publish annually in the Christian Conservator a report of his district, and shall make a statistical report to the General Conference of the number of sermons preached, the number of churches dedicated, amount received as salary, amount received for dedicating churches, amount received as salary for labor performed in any interest of the church, and amount of traveling expenses.

¶77. **Isolated Churches.**—All isolated churches or parts of churches, or churches disconnected with annual conferences—provided they adopt our constitution and book of discipline—are referred to the board of bishops for instruction as to their relation to the church, and pastoral care, and the missionary board may, when necessary and practicable, provide for the pastoral care of such churches.

¶78. **Delinquent.**—When a bishop fails to perform his duty, unless through unavoidable circumstances, he cannot be suffered to retain his office.

¶79. **Vacancy on the Board.**—In case of a vacancy in the board of bishops, the general board of administration shall appoint an eligible person to fill the vacancy.

XII. Duties in General

¶80. **Necessity of Union Among Ourselves.**—Let us be deeply sensible, from what we have known, of the evil of a division in principle, spirit or practice, and of the dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we are divided we shall injure ourselves, the work of God and the souls of our people. To secure a closer union among ourselves let us:

1. Be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it.

2. Pray earnestly for and speak truly and freely to each other.

3. When we meet let us never part without prayer, if prayer is at all practicable.

4. Take great care not to despise each other's gifts.

5. Never speak lightly of each other.

6. Defend each other's character in everything, so far as is consistent with truth.

7. Labor in honor, each preferring another before himself.

8. Seriously examine the cause, evils and cures of heart and church divisions.

¶81. Practical Religion.—§1. Private Instruction.—To assist morally and intellectually, those under our care, let us give them instruction and encouragement at their own homes, thus promoting confidence and communion with God among us, weaning us from the love of the world, inuring us to a life of heavenly-mindedness; also encouraging them to strive after and practice brotherly love, that no evil thinking or judging one another be found among us; and lastly, that we may learn to do as we would be done by.

¶2. Pastoral Instruction.—It is the duty of every preacher to instruct the people on every proper occasion, both public and private, and exhort them to be diligent in all good works and doctrine. Until this be done, and that in sincerity, we shall, upon the whole, be of little use, and our good shall be evil spoken of; therefore, whatever we may be, we should guard against useless and idle conversation, jesting and foolish talk.

¶82. Singing.—We believe it to be the duty of the people of God to sing his praises, and to sing them in the great congregation as well as in the private circle. We therefore earnestly recommend to all our people the cultivation of vocal music, so that the singing in our congregations may be improved. As a help to this end, we advise our people to provide themselves with hymn books for use in times of public and social worship.

CHAPTER IV—THE ORGANIZATION

I. Division of Territory.

¶83. How Divided.—Territory occupied by the church shall be divided into circuits, stations, mis-

sions, presiding elder districts and annual conferences.

¶84. The Divisions Defined.—§1. A circuit shall consist of two or more societies served by the same pastor or pastors.

§2. A single society supporting a pastor shall be called a station.

§3. A circuit or station receiving aid from the missionary society supporting its pastor shall be called a mission.

§4. A presiding elder district shall consist of two or more circuits, stations or missions, under the control of a presiding elder.

§5. An annual conference shall consist of one or more presiding elder districts, formed within such boundary lines as the General Conference may from time to time establish.

II. Societies and Classes.

¶85. Definitions.—§1. A society shall consist of three or more members having a regularly constituted leader.

§2. The term class shall apply to the subdivisions of a society, when, on account of numbers or convenience in worship, it is thought best to make such division. It shall also apply to an undivided society.

¶86. Division of Societies.—Societies may be divided into classes by a committee, consisting of one or more members, elected by the church at any place where it may be deemed necessary. Each class so formed shall have power to elect its own leader, and shall be considered as having the rights and privileges of separate classes.

¶87. Disbanding Classes.—In case it becomes impracticable to keep up an organization by the election of class officers each member of the organization shall have his name transferred to any society he may choose; but should any one fail to do so within six months, the pastor shall transfer the name of such member to the nearest society.

¶88. Class Leaders.—§1. Election of Leaders.—A class shall aunally elect, by ballot, by a majority of all votes cast, one of its own members or one of some other class, to be its leader. This election shall

be immediately preceding the annual conference He shall hold his office for the conference year or until his successor is elected. Care should be taken to select those who are faithful in Christian duty, apt to teach and deeply spiritual. In case a vacancy should occur in the interim between annual elections, the pastor shall hold a special election to fill such vacancy.

§2. **To Hold Class and Prayer Meetings.**— It shall be the class leader's duty to meet his class, in class or prayer meeting, at least once a week, to speak to them concerning the spiritual welfare of their souls and exhort them to unity and love. He shall extend the freedom of our prayer and class meetings to all sincere and well disposed persons who may desire to attend them.

§3. **Record of Class Membership.**—Every class leader shall keep a record of the members of his class with place of their residence, and also of all deaths, expulsions, and removals, in a book provided for that purpose.

§4. **Trials and Records.**—Every class leader shall keep an official copy of the proceedings of church trials, to be secured from the clerk of the trial court, in a book provided for that purpose; and it shall be his duty in case of an appeal, to furnish his record to the quarterly conference.

§5. **Qualifications.**—It shall be his duty to lead a pious life and set a good example before his class; carefully to study the Holy Scriptures, to fully qualify himself for the faithful performance of his duties as leader and counselor of his class.

§6. **Visiting the Sick and Delinquent.**—When any of his members are sick or delinquent in the performance of any of their duties as Christians, he shall visit them, pray or otherwise labor with them, as circumstances may require.

§7. **Dismissal for Delinquency.**—Any class leader failing to discharge these duties, may, on complaint, be removed by the quarterly conference.

§8. **Class Leader's Resignation.**—Should a class leader desire to be relieved from the work of leadership he must first inform the pastor of his intention

by writing. Said resignation must be acted upon by a vote of the class before it becomes effective.

¶89. Parsonage and Moving of the Preacher.—It shall be the duty of a circuit, station or mission when a preacher is sent to it by an annual conference, to provide a house and move him at its own expense.

¶90. Official Board. — §1. How Constituted. — The properly recognized members of the quarterly conference shall be the members of the official board of each local church. On circuits, the official boards of the various churches included shall compose the quarterly conference.

§2. President.—The preacher in charge shall be president of the official board, and in his absence one of the members shall be elected pro tem. The sessions shall begin and close with devotional exercises.

§3. Meetings.—The official board on stations shall meet once a month, and may meet oftener if circumstances require; and on circuits at the call of the pastor.

§4. Duties of the Official Board.—The business affairs of each church shall be delegated to the official board, except as otherwise provided by the Discipline. On both stations and circuits, the official board shall have power to transact the business of the church which it represents.

The official board shall elect a secretary who shall keep a record of the proceedings. It shall also elect a financial secretary who shall keep a record of the members of the church together with the amounts they subscribe and contribute to the current expenses budget, and the benevolent budget.

The official board shall also elect a treasurer (not the financial secretary) who shall receive the funds of the church, paying them out as directed by the official board.

The official board shall receive a statement from each class leader, Sunday school superintendent and U. B. C. E. president of the condition of the work.

It shall be the duty of the official board to receive all reports of subscriptions and moneys collected and disbursed for the interest of the local society: and

all persons intrusted with subscriptions or moneys, whether trustees, the financial secretary, the treasurer, or others, shall report the same to the official meeting as soon as possible.

The official board, at its first regular meeting, shall elect an auditing committee for the church, whose duty it shall be to audit annually the books of the treasurers.

It shall be the duty of the official board to submit all its doings to the quarterly conference for examination and approval.

§5. **Duties of Financial Secretary.**—It shall be the duty of the financial secretary to receive the envelopes, keep a correct record of names with amounts paid and report the same to the official board monthly. He shall furnish the secretary of the local administrative board at the end of each month, a list of the names of those who are delinquent in payment, with a statement of amounts due from each. The board of administration together with their group leaders shall then endeavor to secure prompt payment of any deficits. It shall be the duty of the financial secretary to provide the elements for the Lord's Supper, always securing unfermented grape wine. So far as practicable he shall furnish individual communion cups.

§6. **Duties of Treasurer.** The treasurer shall keep a complete record of all financial transactions belonging to the local church in a book provided by the official board for that purpose. Benevolent funds shall be forwarded to the conference treasurer on or before the twentieth of each month.

¶91. **Organization of the Local Church.—§1. Local Administrative Board.**—The pastor and the official board of each local church shall annually appoint an administrative board of from three to five members of its own number representing the various interests of the church program. The pastor shall be the chairman of the local administrative board.

§2. **Duties of the Administrative Board.**—1. The administrative board shall divide the society into groups of families, the size of the groups will depend upon the numerical strength of the society. All unchurched familes residing within the bounds of the

various groups, should be counted in the group in which they reside, in order that the influence of the church may be extended to them, and eventually they may be brought into our communion.

2. The administrative board shall appoint a group leader for each group in the society. Great care should be exercised in the choice of such leaders. They should be chosen from the most spiritual, consecrated and energetic workers in the society. The duty of the group leaders shall be to carry out the work of the church program in the several groups as outlined by the local administrative board.

3. The administrative board, through the group leaders, shall give the church all needed information in regard to the various interests of the church, both local and general, and explain the purposes for which money is being raised.

4. The administrative board with the assistance of the group leaders shall make the every member canvass, for both the local and general budgets.

§3. **The Allocating Committee.**—The local administrative board of each society together with the pastor shall constitute an allocating committee which shall apportion the budget as allocated to the field by the Council of Administration, to the various societies on the field.

III. Quarterly Conference.

¶92. **Members.—§1.** The members of the quarterly conference shall be the presiding elder of the district, the preacher in charge, and all the properly recognized preachers, exhorters, deaconesses, singing evangelists, leaders, the members of the administrative board, the president of the U. B. C. E., president of the local W. M. A., when a member of the church, and trustees of meeting and parsonage houses, and superintendents of Sunday schools (when said trustees and superintendents are members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ), who reside within the bounds of the circuit, station, or mission, or hold membership therein.

§2. **Written Reports.**—Every quarterly conference official shall furnish to each quarterly conference to which he is amenable a written report.

'93. **Quorum.**—Such members as are present at any regular meeting shall constitute a quorum sufficient to transact the business of the quarterly conference.

'94. **Duties and Powers of the Quarterly Conference.**—§1. In the absence of the presiding elder, to elect a chairman, pro tem, whose official acts shall be valid.

§2. To elect a secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of their proceedings in a book provided for that purpose, in which the names of all the members composing the said conference shall be entered, and a separate roll stating the official relation of each.

§3. To make inquiry into the moral deportment and official character of its members.

§4. To receive and try all appeals, references and complaints that may come regularly before it, but no member of the quarterly conference can be suspended or expelled from the church prior to a committee trial, according to discipline.

§5. To enforce discipline in all the societies under its jurisdiction, but in no case to disorganize a society unless it is found impracticable to keep up an organization by the election of society officials.

§6. To make settlement with the treasurer of the official board and pastor.

§7. To grant and renew licenses to exhort and quarterly licenses to preach.

§8. To arrange a plan, with consent of the pastor, whereby local and quarterly conference preachers may preach regularly at stated places as directed by the conference.

§9. To receive under its jurisdiction any society within reasonable distances of its boundaries.

IV. Annual Conference.

¶95. **Members.**—The members of the annual conference are the elders and licentiate preachers who have been duly received by the conference; moreover any annual conference may receive into its body one layman from each charge in its bounds whenever two-thirds of its members shall, in a regular annual

session, vote so to do, notice of such vote to be given twenty-four hours before the time of voting. The laymen thus chosen shall have all privileges and rights of ministers in the annual conference, except the right to vote for the reception or expulsion of preachers, and passing of preachers in the course of study.

'96. Election of Lay Delegates.—§1. Board of Tellers.—It shall be the duty of the quarterly conference in its third session to elect two tellers to act in conjunction with the secretary to count the votes that may be cast for lay delegate to the annual conference.

§2. **Holding of Election.**—The class leader and administrative board of each organized class shall hold the election for lay delegate at least one month before the annual conference. No votes shall be counted except those cast by the voter in person, except in case of sickness, or absence or otherwise unavoidably detained. In such cases, the votes may be sent to the class where they hold membership, containing names of their choice, with their own names written on the back. The one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected and the one receiving the next highest shall be declared the alternate, and so on down to the last vote. It shall be the duty of the class leader to forward the votes cast in his class to the board of tellers inclosed in sealed envelope.

§3. **Delegates' Credentials.**—The secretary shall on ascertaining who is elected, make out the necessary credentials, have the board of tellers sign them and sign them himself and present them to the ones receiving the highest number of votes.

The secretary shall certify the record of votes cast for every name, to the presiding elder.

'97. Absentees.—Should any member of the conference absent himself from the sessions of conference three years in succession, without giving a satisfactory reason for so doing, his name may be erased from the roll of the conference.

'98. Electioneering Forbidden.—No preacher shall be permitted to electioneer favorably to his own election to any office or delegation in the church; and

should anyone be found doing so, he shall be accountable to the next annual conference of which he is a member to be dealt with according to the judgment of said conference.

¶99. Officers.—§1. How Constituted.—The officers of the conference shall be the bishop of the district, or, in his absence, a bishop pro tem, and when deemed necessary, a chairman to counsel with and aid the bishop presiding, and a secretary. The chairman and the secretary shall be elected annually by ballot.

§2. A Special Duty.—As soon as practicable after the adjournment of the conference session, the secretary shall transmit to the board of administration the conference roll of ministers with post office addresses, indicating those who have been assigned fields of labor; and a transcript of the footings of the chart. The secretary shall send as early as practicable to the editor of the Christian Conservator a synopsis of the proceedings, including the report of the stationing committee. The secretary shall also send to the general church treasurer the name and address of the annual conference treasurer.

¶100. Powers and Duties of Annual Conference.—§1. The Conference Auditing Committee.—To annually constitute a committee of not more than five, who shall examine the report for the chart, the pass book, and any other items required or deemed advisable, and shall see to it that delinquency, or error in the same shall be corected. This provision shall not deprive any member of annual conference of disciplinary privileges, and rights. When desired, the committee may be constituted a standing committee to serve the following year.

§2. To Examine Its Members.—To examine its members respecting their deportment toward their fellow-beings, as to whether their conduct in life be blameless, and whether they employ as much time as practicable in promoting the kingdom of God, (according to Titus 1: 7-9; and II Tim. 2: 15) and if any are found delinquent, it shall admonish or advise them as the case may require. But should all admonition or advice fail, then the name of the

delinquent person shall be erased from the roll of the conference.

§3. **Duties in General.**—To license candidates for the ministry, to ordain elders, to receive applicants into the itineracy, to elect presiding elders, to station the preachers, to determine the bounds of presiding elders' districts, of circuits, missions, and stations, to receive the report of the council of administration on finance and make any adjustments necessary to meet a change of boundaries; and shall elect the conference treasurer, and shall appoint an auditing committee to audit the accounts of the said conference treasurer.

§4. **Conference Treasurer.**—Each annual conference shall elect by ballot a treasurer who shall receive all funds of the conference and shall disburse the same on order of the conference. The treasurer shall keep an accurate book account of all his receipts and disbursements, keeping separate accounts for different funds, and shall make a detailed, itemized report of every such account to the annual conference. The treasurer's book shall be the property of the conference. The treasurer shall be required to give bond for the faithful performance of his duty, the amount of the bond to be fixed by the conference. He shall receive such compensation as the conference may determine. In case of a vacancy in the treasurer's office, it shall be filled by the presiding elder and his council of administration.

§5. **Benevolence Funds.**—The annual conference treasurer shall forward to the general church treasurer on or before the 25th of each month all moneys collected by the conference for general benevolences, and in no case may these funds be diverted to conference interests.

§6. **To Provide for Superannuated Ministers and Certain Dependents.**—Preachers sustaining a superannuated relation, and their widows and orphans, shall be provided for by the respective annual conferences, as their needs may require, and may be recommended to the General Preachers' Aid Board.

§7. It shall be the duty of the secretaries of annual

conferences, each year to report to the secretary of the board of administration, the footings of the conference chart, and the true number of such itinerants as are found upon the records of the several conferences.

§8. **Conference Secretary of Education.**—The conference shall elect a secretary of education who shall co-operate with the general secretary of education in representing the educational interests of the church within the conference.

¶101. **Council of Administration in the Annual Conference.—§1. Membership.**—The annual conference shall annually elect, by ballot, by a majority vote, a Council of Administration, consisting of from two to six members of the conference depending upon the size of the conference. The bishop of the district and the presiding elders, shall be members ex-officio.

§2. **Organization.**—The council shall meet for organization, immediately after the adjournment of the first session of the conference held in the quadrennium. They shall meet on the call of the bishop of the district, who shall be chairman of the council in all its semi-annual sessions, and elect a recording secretary of their own number and such committees as they may deem necessary. They shall meet semi-annually at such times and places as the council shall direct. The presiding elder shall have power to call special meetings in case circumstances so require.

The conference treasurer shall be an advisory member of the council.

§3. **Duties of the Council.**—1. It shall be the duty of the council to take the program, proposed by the General Conference, and worked out for the church, by the Board of Administration, and adapt it to the local conditions, prevailing upon their conference district. The presiding elder shall be required to furnish each pastor, with the necessary information and help in carrying it out upon their fields. For the faithful discharge of this duty he shall be held responsible to his annual conference.

2. The council shall apportion the budget allo-

cated to their district, by the Board of Administration, for the general interests together with the assessments for pastors, presiding elders and bishops' salaries and the various interests of the conference, to the several fields in the conference. A complete list of the quotas for each society on the fields together with the amount pledged to meet the same, shall be kept by both the presiding elder and the conference treasurer.

3. The council shall appoint a day upon which the every member canvass shall be made upon the several fields, in the conference to secure pledges to meet the conference budget for the ensuing year. This canvass shall be made at least one month before the sitting of the annual conference.

§4. Power of the Council.—The council shall have power to put on a coordinating program for the conference, and undertake the solution of its local problems in a manner that will not conflict with the general program of the church.

V. General Conference

¶102. Members. — §1. Constitutional Regulation. — The members of the General Conference shall be the bishops of the church and such elders as may have been elected thereto as per Article I, section 1, of the Constitution and in the following manner:

§2. Basis of Representation.—Each conference shall be entitled to two delegates; and each conference having more than five hundred members shall have one additional delegate for each five hundred additional members, or a fraction thereof.

¶103. Bishops' Announcements.—The board of bishops shall as early as possible announce the number of delegates to which each conference shall be entitled, as appears from the official statistics of the annual conferences at the end of the third year of the term.

¶104. Election of Delegates.—§1. Duty of the Annual Conference.—It shall be the duty of each annual conference to elect a board of tellers consisting of three members and three alternates, whose duty it

shall be to receive and count the votes cast for delegates and alternates.

§2. **Society Board of Election.**—The leader and administrative board of each society shall constitute the board of election. It shall be the duty of the pastor to furnish the board of election with a sufficient number of printed ballots containing the names of all elders eligible to election, and at the top of the ballot the number of delegates to which the annual conference is entitled. He shall also furnish the board with blank bills of election, together with envelops having printed thereon the name and address of the chairman of the board of tellers.

§3. **Duty of Presiding Elders and Pastors.**—Each annual conference shall raise a sufficient amount of money to defray the expense of printing, and it shall be the duty of the presiding elders to have such printing done by October first preceding the election. Ballots, blank bills of election, and envelops, shall be placed in the hands of the pastors by said presiding elders, to be placed by them in the hands of the society board of election.

§4. **Time of Election.**—The election shall be held in the month of November next preceding the sitting of the General Conference. It shall be the duty of the pastors to see that due announcement of said election is made. Votes shall be received during the aforesaid month of November at any and all regular meetings. And it shall be the duty of said society board of election to be present to receive said votes during this time, to record the name of each voter, and after the last service in which votes can be received, to record the name of each elder voted for, together with the number of votes received, to sign, seal, and forward at once to the annual conference board of tellers. The society board of election shall keep a list of the names of the voters, together with the ballots and a copy of the bill of election, until the close of the General Conference in May following.

§5. **Absent Voters.**—Members incapacitated by age or other unavoidable circumstances may send their ballot with their own name written on the back. Presid-

ing elders and pastors may cast their vote at the society most convenient to them in their respective conferences. Voters may designate their choice on the ballots by the cross sign X.

§6. **Duty of Annual Conference Board of Tellers.**—It shall be the duty of the annual conference board of tellers to make out a list of all elders voted for, and the number of votes cast for each. Should two or more of the elders receive the same number of votes, the board of tellers shall determine by lot which of them is elected. This board shall also immediately apprise those who have been elected.

§7. **Publication.**—Before January first following the election, the board of tellers shall count the vote and sent to the secretary of the board of bishops a complete transcript of the election, including the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes each received. No bills of election received after twelve o'clock midnight of December 15th shall be counted, except such whose postmark on the envelope shows them to have been delayed in transit.

The secretary of the board of bishops shall immediately publish in the Christian Conservator the names of those elected, and furnish a copy to the secretary of the general conference. The published list, as certified to by the board of bishops, shall be sufficient credentials for all delegates in the general conference.

§8. **Filling Vacancies.**—If one or more of the delegates elected should be prevented from attending, it shall be the duty of the annual conference board of tellers to notify the first alternate to take his place, and so descend to the last alternate.

§9. **Contests.**—In case of contest of election, the annual conference board of tellers shall furnish each contestant with an exact copy of the election returns, when requested.

¶105. **General Conference Members' Expenses.**—The board of administration shall arrange for the expenses of the General Conference by an assessment upon the annual conferences, the amount of which shall be assessed each year during the quadrennium to be

used and carried as a sinking fund to defray the expenses of the general conference. All moneys shall be forwarded to the general church treasurer at Huntington, Indiana, monthly, the last payment to be made not later than the first of January next preceding the sitting of the General Conference, to be apportioned by the board of bishops as follows: The delegates of any annual conference to the General Conference shall receive such sums from this fund as the amount collected in the annual conference is to the amount assessed to the said conference upon the order of the board of bishops. Any unused surplus shall be at the disposal of the General Conference.

¶106. **Officers.**—The officers of the General Conference shall be the bishops and such secretaries as the conference may determine to elect. Besides these conference officers, the conference shall elect at each quadrennial session as church officials: one or more bishops, two editors, one of whom shall edit the Christian Conservator, and the other shall edit the Sunday school and Christian Endeavor literature, a publishing agent, a missionary secretary, a secretary of preachers' aid, a secretary of education, a secretary of religious education, executive secretary, general church treasurer, and such general boards as may be required by discipline.

The election of all officers of the General Conference shall be by ballot, and a majority of all the votes shall be necessary for a choice; provided, however, that the general boards of the church may be elected by a plurality vote.

The General Conference shall by vote determine the time of election of all general officers and boards of the Church.

¶107. **Powers and Duties.**—In addition to the powers and duties enumerated in Articles I and II of the Constitution, it shall be the duty of the General Conference to examine the administration of each annual conference, to see whether it has strictly observed the rules, and preserved the moral and doctrinal principles of the discipline in all its transactions.

VI. The General Board of Administration

¶108. Membership.—§1.—The General Board of Administration shall consist of the bishops, ex-officio, an executive secretary, and seven other members who shall be elected by the General Conference; and any member elected on this board shall not be entitled to election or to sit on any other board of the Church. No general officer shall be elected to this board.

§2. Organization.—The board shall meet immediately after the adjournment of the General Conference at the call of the senior bishop, who shall be chairman of the board. It shall elect a recording secretary and such committees as may be needed. The board shall have power to appoint its times and places of meeting during the quadrennium. In case of the absence of the chairman, the board shall have power to elect a chairman pro tem for the session; and also to fill any vacancies which may occur in its own body during the quadrennium.

§3. Powers and Duties of the Board.—

1. The board shall initiate, promote and provide means to carry out the plans of the church, as outlined by the General Conference.

2. It shall direct all general campaigns during the quadrennium to attain such church goals and objectives, as have been determined by the General Conference.

3. The board shall have power to provide for any financial emergency which may arise during the quadrennium.

4. The board shall provide for the General Conference expense fund.

5. The board shall see that the general church treasurer is bonded, receive reports from him, and to it he shall be responsible for the faithful performance of his duties.

6. The board shall direct the auditing of the accounts of all the departments of the church, with the view of securing such uniformity of method and operation as will promote the greatest efficiency and give any needed information to the church. All audits shall be made by expert accountants.

7. The board of administration shall so co-ordinate the program of the several departments, that they will make for efficiency and unity of action, by becoming the one program of the entire church. It shall hold an advisory relation to all departments, as to business methods and plans.

8. The board shall recommend to succeeding General Conferences, such changes in the discipline and plans of organization and such methods of co-operation as it believes will increase the efficiency, and better coordinate the work of the entire church. Its recommendations shall be printed and mailed to each delegate, at least thirty days before the convening of the General Conference.

9. The board shall investigate and take such legal steps as may be found necessary to cause the charters of our several institutions and departments, to harmonize with the action of the General Conference, and the laws of the state.

10. The board shall apportion to the conference council of administration, the quota of the general budget, allocated to their conference district. This quota shall be assessed after investigation has shown that such an amount would be a just and reasonable proportion for the district to raise and shall be considered the minimum amount to be raised upon the district.

11. The annual conference may confer with the board of administration for an adjustment of claims and quotas.

12. The board shall fix the salary of the executive secretary, and should a vacancy occur in the office of either executive secretary or general church treasurer, such vacancy shall be filled by the board of administration.

13. The board shall assemble all reports to be presented to the General Conference and place the same in convenient form for the use of the delegates.

14. The board shall compile, ready for publication, a Year Book, including the work of the various departments of the church, also the statistical table of the conferences, with post office addresses of all an-

nual conference ministers indicating, when possible, those assigned to fields of labor; and deliver the same to the publishing agent on or before the first day of December.

15. It shall be the duty of the board of administration to formulate a chart for the presiding elders and pastors; and license blanks for quarterly conference preachers, exhorters. evangelists, deaconesses and singing evangelists; and also for annual conference preachers and ordained elders.

16. In case that either the executive secretary or general treasurer are found derelict, incompetent or delinquent in performing their duties, the board shall have power to remove them from office: provided, however, that no such officer shall be removed from office until he has been furnished with a copy of the complaints in writing and has had an opportunity of defense before them.

17. It shall be the duty of the board to receive annual reports from the bishops and to examine into their performance of the duties pertaining to their office, and if found derelict, incompetent or delinquent the board shall have power to prefer charges against them: provided, however, that no bishop shall have charges preferred against him until he has been furnished with a copy of the complaints in writing and has had an opportunity for defense before them.

§4. Duties of the Executive Secretary.—

1. He shall give his entire time to the plans of the church program as outlined by the board.

2. At such times and places as it may be found necessary, he shall be the financial agent to represent the board, in giving instruction and assisting the conference council of administration in raising their quota of the financial budget.

CHAPTER V.—COURSES OF STUDY

I. Course for Quarterly Conference Preachers

'109. Special Regulations.—§1. Reception.—Any one properly recommended to the quarterly conference for license to preach shall give evidence of educational attainments equivalent to the completion of the public

school course through the eighth grade, (see ¶39, §1).

§2. Study and Examinations.—Any one receiving a quarterly conference license to preach shall be required to pursue the course of study for quarterly conference preachers, and to take an examination on the same at the end of each year until said course is completed.

§3. Board of Examiners.—All applicants for quarterly conference license to preach, and all quarterly conference licentiates, shall be examined by the board of examiners consisting of three persons, constituted as follows: the presiding elder of the district, the preacher in charge, and a third member of the quarterly conference to be chosen by the presiding elder and preacher. In case there is no preacher in charge, the presiding elder shall select one person and these two a third. The presiding elder shall be chairman of the board. When the majority reports favorably the license may be granted.

§4. Permanent License.—Any one completing the course of study for quarterly conference preachers and passing a satisfactory examination in the same shall receive a license acknowledging the fact which shall exempt him from annual renewal, so long as his doctrine and deportment shall be conformable to the doctrine of Christ and the usage of our church.

A certificate of graduation from a regular three years' course in theology given by any institution of learning under the control of the church may be accepted in place of an examination on the course of study.

§5. Admittance to Annual Conference.—Licentiates are required to complete the first two years of the course of study before being admitted to annual conference; they to be permitted to complete this portion of the course in one year.

§6. Delinquents.—Should any licentiate fail to complete the course of study within five years, his license shall not be subject to renewal unless a reasonable excuse can be given for such failure.

¶110. Course of Study.—§1. First Year.—Books required to be examined upon: Bible; United Brethren Church Discipline—Parts First and Second; Passion

for Men—Hallenback; Progressive Training Course for Sunday School Workers—Brewbaker; Expert Endeavor—Wells; and present a written sermon on Repentance.

§2. **Second Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Bible; Popular Manual of Theology—Wolfard; How to Conduct a Sunday School—Lawrence; Ways that Win in Church Finance—Gregg; United Brethren Church Discipline—Parts Third and Fourth; Modern Secret Societies—Blanchard; and present a written sermon on Faith.

§3. **Third Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Bible; Manual of Christian Doctrine—Banks; United Brethren Church Discipline—Parts Fifth, Sixth and Seventh; Manual of Biblical Geography—Hurlbut; Preparation and Delivery of Sermons—Broadus; and present a written sermon on Regeneration.

II. Course for Annual Conference Preachers

¶111. **Special Regulations.**—§1. **Reception.**—Any person properly recommended to the annual conference for license to preach, shall give evidence of educational attainments equivalent to the completion of a public school course half way through the standard high school grade, and answer satisfactorily the special disciplinary questions. (See ¶46, §1 and §2.

§2. **Study and Examinations.**—All annual conference licentiates shall be required to pursue the course of study for annual conference preachers, and take an examination on the same each year until said course is completed.

§3. **Theological Graduates.**—A certificate of graduation from a regular three years' theological course given by any institution of learning under the control of this church may be accepted in place of an examination on the course of study.

§4. **College Credits.**—All persons having attended any institution of learning under the control of this church, but have not completed a regular theological course, and those who have attended any other institution of learning whose credits have been approved by the theological faculty of Huntington College, may be exempt from examination on all subjects in the

course of study for which they have an equal amount of credits in college. No one having a diploma of graduation from a college is to be exempt from examination on the course of study in lieu thereof.

§5. **Board of Examiners.**—At each session of the annual conference a board of examiners shall be elected by the conference, consisting of not less than three nor more than five, care being taken to elect men with special qualifications for the work, to whom shall be referred for examination, all applicants for license to preach, and all licentiates pursuing the course of study. The board shall organize by electing one of its members chairman and another secretary, the latter to keep a permanent record of the standing of the applicants and licentiates, and report to conference when required to do so. This record shall include the credits allowed licentiates for work done in our institutions of learning, described in ¶111, §3 and §4.

The chairman shall assign to each examiner the books or subjects in which he is to give instruction by correspondence or otherwise during the year.

§6. **Examinations.**—All examinations shall be in writing, if practicable, and shall be held at least one day prior to the sitting of the annual conference, except that of applicants for license. The examinations shall be graded on a scale of 100, an average of seventy, with not less than fifty in any one subject, being necessary to pass. These examinations shall be based on questions prepared by the Book Committee. The questions shall be furnished by the publishing agent to the licentiates and board of examiners at their request.

§7. **Passing in Course of Study.**—A licentiate shall in no case be permitted to pass to the succeeding year until he has fully met the requirements of the year's course of study in which he may be.

§8. **Delinquents.**—Any licentiate who fails to study the books required, and to submit to examinations, shall, at the close of the seventh year of his probation at furthest, have his name erased from the annual conference record.

In case of such erasure, he shall be referred back to and have standing in the quarterly conference as a licensed preacher.

¶112. **Course of Study and Reading.**—§1. **First Year.**—Books required to be examined upon; Study of the Bible by Books, Old Testament—Sell; Systematic Theology—Miley, Vol. 1, page 1 to the end of page 275; Preparation and Delivery of Sermons—Broadus, pages to 257, General History—Barnes, pages to 312; Church History—Fisher, pages to 239; Philosophy of the Plan of Salvation—Walker; and a written sermon on Revivals.

Required supplementary reading: Bible—(Genesis to end of II Samuel); Art of Reading and Speaking—Fleming; Lectures on Revivals—Finney; Roman Catholicism Analyzed—Phillips.

§2. **Second Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Study of the Bible by Books, New Testament—Sell; Systematic Theology—Miley, Vol. 1, page 276 to the end; Preparation and Delivery of Sermons—Broadus, pages 258 to end; General History—Barnes, pages 313 to end; Church History—Fisher, page 240 to 483; Infallible Proofs—Pierson; and a written sermon on Regeneration.

Required supplementary reading: Bible—(I Kings to the end of Song of Solomon); The Expansion of Christianity—Carus-Wilson.

§3. **Third Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: How to Make the Church Go—Leach; Systematic Theology—Miley, Vol II, page 1 to end of page 253; Pastoral Theology—Hoppin; Church History—Fisher, pages 484 to end; Old Testament History—Smith; Christian Ethics—Gregory; Psychology of Religion—Snowden; and a written sermon on the Atonement.

Required supplementary reading: Bible—(Isaiah to the end of Malachi); the Analogy of Religion—Butler; Christian Science in the Light of the Holy Scripture—Halderman.

§4. **Fourth Year.**—Books required to be examined upon: Systematic Theology—Miley, Vol. II, pages 254 to the end; Logic and Argument—Hyslop; History of

Christian Doctrine—Fisher; New Testament History—Smith; Biblical Hermeneutics—Terry; Manual of Biblical Georgraphy—Hurlbut; and a written sermon on the Resurrection.

Required supplementary reading: Bible—(Matthew to end of Revelation); The New Testament Idea of Hell—Merrill.

¶113. **General Reference and Reading.—§1. Commentaries.—**The Pulpit, Clark's, Barnes' Notes, and Gray's Biblical Encyclopedia.

§2. **Concordance.—**Young's Analytical and Cruden's.

§3. **Biblical Dictionary.—**Fallow's Bible Encyclopedia.

§4. **General Reading.** Antiquities of the Jews—Josephus; History of the Reformation—Fisher; The Art of Extemporaneous Speech—Bautain; How to Be a Pastor—Cupley; Hints to Growing Preachers—Jefferson; Growth in Holiness—Mudge; Quiet Talks on Power—Gordon; Quiet Talks on Service—Gordon; Quiet Talks on Prayer—Gordon; Lectures to Professing Christians—Finney; Lectures on Gospel Themes—Finney; Seventh Day Adventism Renounced—Canright; The Golden Bible—Lamb.

PART THIRD

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CHAPTER I—CONSTITUTION

¶114. In order to secure a general and systematic study of the Bible, the careful direction and supervision of the teaching agencies of Religious Education within the church, the salvation of souls, the developing of the Christian life, and the culture and training of our youth we do ordain the following constitution for the Department of Religious Education, which department shall be the legal successor to what was heretofore known as the General Sunday School Board and the General United Brethren Christian Endeavor.

ARTICLE I

Board of Religious Education

This department shall be under the direction and management of a board consisting of seven members, one of which shall be a bishop appointed by the board of bishops—he shall be chairman of the board; one, the General Secretary of Religious Education, and five members who shall be elected by the General Conference.

ARTICLE II

General Secretary

The General Conference shall, at each quadrennial session, elect a General Secretary of Religious Education whose duty it shall be to supervise the work of Religious Education, and in a manner hereafter to be specified. The salary of the General Secretary shall be fixed by the Board and shall be paid monthly.

ARTICLE III

Officers

1.—The Board shall be convened by the bishop who is a member of the Board, within thirty days after General Conference, and shall organize by electing a vice-president, a recording secretary, an executive committee consisting of three members for the department of General Sunday Schools, and an executive committee consisting of three members for the General United Brethren Christian Endeavor.

2.—The General Treasurer of the church shall be

the treasurer of the Board, and the proportion of his salary to be paid by this board shall be determined by the Board of Administration.

ARTICLE IV

Vacancies

Should a vacancy occur in the office of the General Secretary, or in the membership of the Board, except in the appointee of the board of bishops, the remaining members shall fill such vacancy.

ARTICLE V

Duties and Powers

1. This Board shall have supervision of all the Sunday School work and of all the Christian Endeavor work of the church.

2. It shall meet annually at such a time and place as the Board shall designate, and special meetings may be called by the president or by a majority of the Board.

3. It shall at its annual meeting make an estimate of the funds needed to carry on its work and submit the same to the Board of Managers to be included in the general church budget.

4. It shall have power to raise funds by collections, donations, bequests or otherwise for the prosecution of the work of the Board, subject to the approval of the Board of Administration

5. It shall adopt and promote such departments as shall make for the betterment of Sunday School and Christian Endeavor work, and hold such conventions, schools of methods, etc., as may be deemed wise and necessary.

6. It shall publish books, leaflets, and departmental pamphlets as the needs may demand, and may publish a paper devoted to the interests of Religious Education.

7. It shall provide a model Constitution for conference associations.

8. It shall assist in organizing and sustaining Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor societies in such localities and under such conditions as may seem advisable.

9. It shall decide on the curriculum and prescribe the literature for our Sunday schools, and recommend

to the Publishing Board the publishing of the same.

10. It shall be diligent in study and investigation of the best methods and means for teaching and training in religion, and shall seek to promote such methods and means throughout the church.

11. It shall prescribe and arrange for the distribution of the watch-care course in Religious Education, to be known as the "Temple Training Course for Watch-care Classes."

12. The board shall see to it that the Secretary of Religious Education performs his duties, and in case they find him derelict, incompetent, or delinquent, the board shall have power to remove him from office; provided, however, that he shall not be removed from office until he has been furnished with a copy of the complaints in writing, and has had an opportunity of defense before them.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Officers

1. It shall be the duty of the General Secretary of Religious Education to visit the various conferences, whenever practicable, in the interest of the work of the department; he shall attend to all correspondence and field work of the department under the directions of the Board; he shall visit conferences in the interim between the annual sessions, and whenever practicable assist the conference Boards of Religious Education in conducting conventions and institutes; he shall promote training agencies, and endeavor to stimulate interest in Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor societies by presenting the best methods of work; he shall aid in developing Christian benevolence and interest in missions in our Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor societies; he shall keep a record of all valuable papers, including notes, bequests, legacies, etc., coming into possession of the Board and commit them to the general church treasurer for safe keeping; he shall prepare a quadrennial report for the General Conference, and he shall give his full time to the performance of these, and such other duties as the Board may direct.

2. The executive committee of the General Depart-

ment of Sunday Schools shall act in the interims of the General Board meetings, in matters pertaining to Sunday schools, and in a manner to be prescribed by the General Board of Religious Education.

3. The executive committee of the Department of United Brethren Christian Endeavor shall act in the interims of the General Board meetings, in matters pertaining to Christian Endeavor, and in a manner to be prescribed by the General Board of Religious Education.

4. The president and the recording secretary shall perform such duties as are usually incumbent on such officers.

5. The General Church Treasurer shall hold in trust the funds of the Board, and disburse the same on orders signed by the general secretary, such disbursements having been authorized by the Board. All permanent funds in the hands of the treasurer belonging to the Board shall be administered by the Board.

ARTICLE VII

Application for Aid

When aid is needed, those making the application shall organize a United Brethren Sunday school or a United Brethren Christian Endeavor society by electing officers and adopting the disciplinary regulations of the church and shall report the same fact to the general secretary, as well as the kind and amount of help needed; and upon a favorable consideration of the application such supplies shall be furnished. Such donations shall, however, be discontinued unless a church organization shall be effected within two years from date of first donation.

ARTICLE VIII

Instruction for Children in Doctrine

Children in the Sunday school and Christian Endeavor society should be instructed in Christian fundamentals. To promote this work it shall be the duty of the General Board of Religious Education to prepare suitable literature on the question involved.

ARTICLE IX

Annual Conference Relations and Duties

1. Each annual conference shall annually elect a conference Secretary of Religious Education.

2. Each annual conference shall also elect annually a Conference Board of Religious Education, consisting of four members. (This number may be increased or decreased by action of the annual conference.)

3. The Conference Secretary of Religious Education shall be exofficio a member of the Conference Board of Religious Education, and chairman. He shall also be an advisory member of the General Board of Religious Education. The board shall meet within twenty days after the conference session and organize by electing from their number a recording secretary, a treasurer, an executive committee for the conference Sunday School Association, and an executive committee for the conference Christian Endeavor Association, which committees shall act in matters pertaining to their respective interests in the interim of the board meeting and in a manner to be prescribed by the board; it shall meet annually at such a time and place as the board shall designate and special meetings may be called by the chairman or by a majority of the board. The duties of the board shall be:

a. To direct the activities of the conference secretary.

b. To plan for, and stimulate the work of Religious Education within the bounds of the conference by the development of U. B. C. E. societies and Sunday schools, and other teaching and training agencies.

c. To appoint such Divisional Superintendents as may be necessary for the best promotion of the work of Religious Education through the various teaching and training agencies of the conference.

d. To collect statistics of Sunday schools, U. B. C. E. societies and other teaching and training agencies and transmit the same to the General Secretary of Religious Education, with names and addresses of all Sunday school superintendents and other directors of teaching or training agencies.

e. To give diligent attention to all the interests of this Board before the annual conference, and to hold at a convenient time during the conference session a suitable anniversary service for the purpose of advancing the cause of Religious Education.

CHAPTER II—SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Local Sunday School Organization

¶115. Organization of Sunday Schools.—In order to insure unity in administration and soundness of teaching, all our Sunday schools shall, as far as possible, conform to the following:

¶116. Organizing Sunday Schools.—Any preacher or member of this church may, where practicable call a meeting of the members of the church together with friends of Sunday schools, in any community not already in charge of a regular pastor, and proceed to organize a United Brethren Sunday school by enrolling all who will agree to unite in such organization and electing by ballot according to the Constitution, a superintendent and other necessary officers.

¶117. Nominating Committee.—The pastor, in conjunction with two persons selected by the official board, may at least one week prior to the annual election, nominate two suitable persons as candidates for each of the several offices of the Sunday school, provided that if so desired by the pastor and the society the superintendent shall be elected by the official board.

¶118. Officers.—The superintendent and other general officers of the school shall hold their respective offices one year or until their successors are chosen.

¶119. Superintendent's Duties.—§1. Report to the Quarterly Conference. The superintendent shall render to each quarterly conference an account of the condition of his school stating also whether he is prompt in opening and orderly in his management of the same, and at the close of his term shall see that a successor is elected after the manner prescribed.

§2. Report to the Pastor.—He shall also give a written statistical report of the school to the pastor at least ten days before the sitting of the annual conference.

¶120. Dissmissal of Superintendent and Executive Committee.—The quarterly conference shall have power to dismiss a superintendent, or any member of the executive committee, for delinquency, heresy, or other unfitness.

¶121. Pastor's Supervision.—The pastor shall have

general supervision of all the Sunday schools on his charge. It shall be his duty to preside at all meetings for the election of officers when practicable or for the organization of Sunday schools, and to organize a Sunday school at each appointment on his charge where there is not one already; he shall preach on the subject at each appointment at least once a year; he shall report to his conference the number of schools continuing through the year, and the amount of money collected for the use of schools, for the general fund, for missions and for any other purpose.

¶122. Recommendations.—§1. Time of Organization.—We recommed that so far as possible the reorganization of all Sunday schools take place immediately preceding the close of the conference year, the new officers to assume their duties at the beginning of the new year.

§2. Methods and Departments. — Whenever it is practicable the Sunday school shall adopt such modern Sunday school methods and departments as shall make for the betterment of the Sunday school and the church. Provided, however, that no method shall be adopted which shall conflict with the principles and doctrines of the church.

¶123. Constitution of Sunday School.—The following shall be the Constitution of all United Brethren Sunday schools:

Article I

Name.—This school shall be known as the United Brethren Sunday school of ————————————, local church society, and the school shall be subject to the requisitions of said local society and the General Sunday School Board.

Article II

Object.—The object of the school shall be to gather in all, both old and young, as far as possible for instruction in and the study of the Bible, and to promote the worship of God in the Sunday school, and to secure the salvation of precious souls.

Article III

Officers.—a. The officers shall be superintendent, a secretary, a treasurer, a librarian, and when desired by the school, a chorister and organist. The duties of

these officers shall be such as usually pertain to such offices; and whenever it is generally deemed necessary for the interest of the school, an assistant may be elected to each of these offices, each of whom shall be subject in his official duties to his superior officer, except in the absence of such superior.

b. There shall also be an executive committee of three (or five as the school may prefer) including the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and pastor, who shall be members ex-officio, and the superintendent shall be chairman; and a majority of this committee shall be members of the United Brethren church.

c. The superintendent and assistant superintendent, when at all possible, shall each be a member of the United Brethren church in good and regular standing, and shall be elected annually, by ballot, by a majority vote.

d. Tll other officers and assistants shall be elected by ballot annually at the usual place of holding the Sunday school and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected.

e. Members of the United Brethren church and all enrolled members of the school above twelve years of age, shall be entitled to a vote at any election of the school.

f. The pastor of the church shall preside at each annual election whenever practicable, and in case of his enforced absence, he shall appoint a chairman, and the superintendent or pastor shall preside at all special elections.

Article IV

Vacancies.—Vacancies in any of the above offices shall be filled in the same manner and form as above provided for annual reorganization, but the election under this clause shall be for an unexpired term, and should the vacancy occur by the action of the quarterly conference the election shall be by said conference or under its direction.

Article V

Duty of Executive Committee.—It shall be the duty of the executive committee, with the pastor and superintendent, to select and order suitable literature and

helps for the school from the United Brethren Publishing Establishment and to devise and put into operation plans for raising necessary funds for this purpose, and promoting measures of greater efficiency.

Article VI

a. **Appointing Teachers.**—The teachers shall be appointed by the superintendent, with the advice and consent of the pastor in charge (if there be one), and the executive committee, and the superintendent may, if he choose, consult the respective classes, but he shall be held accountable for the appointment and conduct of all the teachers and departmental superintendents.

b. Persons who are members of the United Brethren church distinguished for piety and aptness to teach should, when at all possible, be employed as teachers and continued as long as useful.

Article VII

Place of Meeting.—The place of meeting for the Sunday school shall be the usual place of meeting for the United Brethren church services and at such hours of the day as shall not interfere with the other services.

Article VIII

By-Laws.—Each Sunday school shall have power to adopt such by-laws as may be necessary for its regulation, not inconsistent with this Constitution, and the laws of the church, and subject to the approval of the quarterly conference.

CHAPTER III—UNITED BRETHREN CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY

I.—U. B. C. E. Senior Society Constitution

Article I

¶124. **Name.**—The name of this organization shall be "The United Brethren Christian Endeavor Society."

Article II

Object.—The object of the society shall be the study of God's word, the bringing of souls to Christ, the developing of the Christian life, and the culture and training of its members in general Christian work.

Article III

Members.—The members of this society shall be divided into Active, Associate and Honorary members.

§1.—Active members shall consist of Christian young people, and those who are older, who sign the active member's pledge.

§2. The Associate members shall consist of young people of good moral character, who are not Christians, but who are interested in the object of this society, and who will sign the Associate member's pledge.

§3. The Honorary members shall consist of older Christians who do not care to sign the active member's pledge, but who are interested in the object of this society, and wish to encourage the same.

§4. All members shall be received by vote of the local society, and all shall be required to sign the Constitution and By-Laws.

Article IV

Officers.—The officers of each society shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected semi-annually, and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices, and the president must be a member of the United Brethren church and shall be a member of the quarterly conference. It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to send a statistical report to the General Secretary; and of the treasurer to send the quarterly collections to the conference treasurer; each to report quarterly. When needed a librarian, organist, and chorister may also be elected as officers.

Article V

Nominating Committee.—The pastor in conjunction with two persons selected by the Board of Managers, may at least one week before the time of the semi-annual elections, nominate two suitable persons as candidates for each of the offices of of the Christian Endeavor society. The president shall preside at the election, and in case of enforced absence the vice-president shall preside.

Article VI

Board of Managers.—The officers of this society together with the pastor in charge, shall constitute a board of managers, who shall appoint all necessary committees, and have the oversight of its finances,

and no money shall be paid out by the treasurer except upon its order.

Article VII

Pledges.—§1. Active Member's Pledge.—Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do; that I will make it the rule of my life to pray and read the Bible every day and to support my own church in every way, especially by attending all her regular Sunday and mid-week services, unless prevented by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Savior; and that just so far as I know how, throughout my whole life, I will endeavor to lead a Christian life. As an active member I promise to be true to all my duties; to be present at and to take some part, aside from singing, in every Christian Endeavor prayer meeting, unless hindered by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Master.

§2. Associate Member's Pledge.—As an Associate member I promise to attend the prayer meeting of the society habitually, and declare my willingness to do what I may be called upon to do, as an Associate member, to advance the interests of the society.

Article VIII

Meetings.—Regular prayer meetings of the society shall be held each week; and one of these each month shall be a regular consecration meeting; and once each month shall be held a regular business meeting; and should any member habitually absent himself from these meetings, after being duly admonished by an appropriate committee, his name shall be erased from the roll.

Article IX

Finances.—Each society shall be required to take up a collection once a quarter, and deliver the same to the conference treasurer.

Article X

Junior Societies.—Junior and Intermediate U. B. C. E. societies may be formed at any appointment subject to the local U. B. C. E. society.

Article XI

By-Laws.—Each society shall have power to adopt such by-laws as may be necessary for its regulation, not inconsistent with the Constitution. However, to secure uniform methods among societies, it is urged that, so far as practicable, the Model By-Laws found in the U. B. C. E. Handbook be used.

II.—U. B. C. E. Intermediate Society Constitution

Article I

¶125. **Name.**—This society shall be called the Intermediate U. B. C. E. Society.

Article II

Object.—Its object shall be to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintance, to train them for work in the church, and in every way to make them useful in the service of God.

Article III

Membership.—The members shall consist of two classes, active and associate.

Active Members.—The active members of the society shall consist of young persons who believe themselves to be Christians, and who sincerely desire to accomplish the object above specified. It is left for each society and pastor to determine whether or not active members must be members of the church.

Active Member's Pledge.—Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would have me do. I will make it the rule of my life to pray and read the Bible, to support the work and worship of my church, and to take my part in the meetings and other activities of this society. These things I will do unless hindered by conscientious reasons; and in them all I will seek the Savior's guidance.

Signed ———————————————

Date ———————— Residence ————————

Associate Members.—All young persons of worthy character, who are not at present willing to be considered Christians, may become associate members of this society. It is expected that all associate members will habitually attend the prayer-meetings, and that

they will in time become active members, and the society will work to this end.

Associate Member's Pledge.—As an associate member I promise to attend the prayer meeting of the society habitually, and declare my willingness to do what I may be called upon to do as an associate member to advance the interest of the society.

Article IV

Officers.—1. The officers of the society shall be a president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer, who shall be chosen from among the active members of the society. (The Superintendent shall be appointed by the Senior U. B. C. E. Society with the approval of the pastor.)

2. There shall also be a Lookout Committee, a Prayer-meeting Committee, a Missionary Committee, a Social Committee, and such other committees as the needs of each society may require, each consisting of five active members unless otherwise determined. There shall also be an Executive Committee as provided in Article VI.

Article V

Duties of Officers.—1. President. The President of the society shall perform the duties usually pertaining to that office. He shall have special watch over the interests of the society, and it shall be his care to see that the different committees perform the duties devolving upon them. He shall be chairman of the executive committee.

2. Vice-president.—In the absence of the President the Vice-president shall perform his duties.

3. Corresponding Secretary.—It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to keep the local society in communication with the General Secretary, and with the local and State unions, and to present to his own society such matters of interest as may come from the General Secretary and other authorized sources of Christian Endeavor information. This office should be retained by one person as long as its duties can be efficiently performed, and the name shall be forwarded to the General Secretary.

4. Recording Secretary.—It shall be the duty of

the Recording Secretary to keep a roll of the members, to correct it from time to time, as may be necessary, and to obtain the signature of the constitution of each newly elected member; also to correspond with absent members; also to keep correct minutes of all business meetings of the society and of the Executive Committee; also to notify all persons elected to office, or to committees, and to do so in writing, if necessary.

5. Treasurer.—It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep safely all money belonging to the society, and to pay out only such sums as shall be voted by the society, or the committees as authorized by the society.

Article VI

Duties of Committees.—1. Lookout Committee.—It shall be the duty of this committee to bring new members into the society, to introduce them to the work and to the other members, and affectionately to look after and reclaim any that seem indifferent to their duties, as outlined in the pledge. This committee shall also, by personal investigation, satisfy itself to the fitness of young persons to become members of the society, and shall propose their names at least one week before the society votes upon their election.

2. Prayer-Meeting Committee.—It shall be the duty of this committee to have in charge the prayer meetings. It shall see that a leader is appointed and a topic assigned for every meeting. It shall do what it can to make each prayer meeting helpful and interesting.

3. Missionary Committee.—It shall be the duty of this committee to provide for regular missionary meetings, to organize mission-study classes, to interest the members of the society in missionary topics, and to aid in the cause of home and foreign missions.

4. Social Committee.—It shall be the duty of this committee to promote the social interests of the society by welcoming strangers to the meetings, and by providing for mutual acquaintance of the members by occasional social gatherings, such as are approved by the church.

5. Executive Committee.—This committee shall consist of the pastor of the church, the superintendent of the society, the officers of the society, and the chair-

men of the various committees. All matters of business requiring debate should be brought first before this committee, and by it reported to the society. Recommendations concerning the finances of the society should also originate with this committee.

6. Committee Reports.—Each committee, except the Executive, shall make a report in writing to the society at the monthly business meeting.

Article VII

Prayer Meeting.—All active members shall attend and heartily support every meeting, unless prevented by some reason which can conscientiously be given to their Master, Jesus Christ.

Article VIII

The Pledge.—All persons on becoming active members shall sign the Active Member's Pledge. Associate members shall sign the Associate Member's Pledge.

Article IX

The Consecration Meeting. Once each month, or as often as the society may decide, a consecration or covenant meeting shall be held, at which the roll may be called, and each member be urged to express his allegiance to Christ by testimony or by quoting some portion of Scripture. It is expected that if any one is obliged to be absent from this meeting, he will send a message, or at least a verse of Scripture, to be read in response to his name at the roll-call.

Article X

Relation to the Church.—This society being a part of the church, it shall carry on its work in harmony with the wishes of the official board of the church.

Article XI

Relation to the Senior and Junior U. B. C. E. Societies.—Inasmuch as the Junior society, the Intermediate society, and the Senior society are united by ties of closest sympathy, and common effort, reports should be read from each at the semi-annual meeting of the other. As a rule a Junior member should graduate into the Intermediate society at the age of thirteen or fourteen, and Intermediate members into the U. B. C. E. society at the age of eighteen or twenty.

Article XII

Withdrawals.—Any person who wishes to withdraw from the society shall state the reasons to the Look-out Committee and pastor. On their recommendation to the Executive Committee, the name may be dropped from the roll.

Article XIII

Expansion.—Any other committees may be added and duties assumed by this society which in the future may seem best.

III.—U. B. C. E. Junior Constitution

Article I

¶126. **Name.**—This society shall be called the ——— ——————————— Junior U. B. C. E. Society.

Article II

Object.—Its object shall be to promote an earnest Christian life among the boys and girls who shall become members, and prepare them for the active service of Christ.

Article III

Membership.—1. The members shall consist of two classes, Active and Associate.

2. **Active Members.**—Any boy or girl between the ages of 7 and 14, inclusive, who shall be approved by the superintendent and assistant, may become an Active member of the society by taking the following pledge:

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do, that I will pray and read the Bible every day, and that, just so far as I know how, I will try to lead a Christian life. I will be present at every meeting of the society when I can, and will take some part in every meeting.

Name _____

I am willing that _____ should sign this pledge, and will do all I can to help _____ keep it.

Parent's name _____

Address _____

3. **Associate Members** shall be those who wish to attend, and promise good conduct at the meeting.

These shall have their names on the roll, but shall not serve as leaders for the meetings. They shall sign the following pledge:

JUNIOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

As an Associate Member I promise to be present at every meeting when I can, and to be quiet and reverent during the meeting.

Name _____

I am willing that _____ should sign this pledge, and will do all I can to help _____ keep it.

Parent's name _____

Address _____

Article IV

Officers.—The officers of the society shall be a superintendent, assistant superintendent, president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. There shall be a Lookout, Prayer Meeting, and Social Committees, and such other committees as may be needed. These committees shall be nominated by the superintendent and elected by the society.

Article V

Duties of Officers.—1. The superintendent shall be appointed by the Senior society, and shall have full control of the society.

2. The assistant superintendent shall aid the superintendent in the work.

3. The president shall conduct the business meetings, under the direction of the superintendent.

4. The vice-president shall act in the absence of the president.

5. The secretary shall keep a correct list of the members, take the minutes of the business meetings, and call the names at the roll call meetings.

6. The treasurer shall take up the collections, enter the amount in the account book, and turn over the money to the assistant superintendent, and also enter all expenditures as directed by the superintendent.

Article VI

Duties of Committees.—1. The Lookout Committee shall secure the names of any who may wish to join the society, and report the same to the superintend-

ents for action. They shall also obtain excuses from members absent from the roll call, and affectionately look after and reclaim any who seem indifferent to their pledge.

2. The Prayer-meeting Committee shall, in connection with the superintendent, select topics, assign leaders, and do what it can to secure faithfulness to the prayer-meeting pledge.

3. The Social Committee shall welcome the children to the meetings and introduce them to the other members of the society. They may also arrange for occasional sociables.

Article VII

Relationship.—The relation of the Junior to the Intermediate, and to the Senior U. B. C. E. societies should be close and intimate. It is expected that when the members of the Junior society have reached the age of thirteen or fourteen they will graduate into the Intermediate society, and at the age of eighteen or twenty into the Senior society.

Article VIII

Meetings.—1. A prayer meeting shall be held once every week. A consecration meeting shall be held once a month, at which the pledge shall be read and the roll called; and the responses of the members shall be considered a renewal of the pledges of the society.

2. Part of the hour of the weekly meeting may, if deemed best, be used by the pastor or superintendent of the society for instruction, or for other exercises which they may approve.

Amendments to these Constitutions may be made by the General Conference.

PART FOURTH

BENEVOLENT AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

CHAPTER I—PARENT BOARD OF MISSIONS

I. Constitution and By-Laws

¶127. **Name.**—This society shall be called the Domestic, Frontier and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, and is organized for the purpose of aiding the annual conferences in extending their missionary labors throughout the country and into foreign and heathen lands.

¶128. **Life Members and Directors.**—The payment of twenty-five dollars at one time shall constitute a life member, or one hundred dollars at one time, a life director. No certificate of life membership or life directorship shall be granted until the full amount is paid.

¶129. **Officers.**—The officers of the society shall consist of a president and two vice-presidents, to be chosen by the board of bishops, a secretary and five directors, who together, shall constitute a board of directors, all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference.

¶130. **Duties of Officers.**—§1. —The president shall preside at all meetings of the board, and shall have power, in conjunction with the secretary, to call special meetings. In the absence of the president, one of the vice-presidents shall fill his place.

§2.—The secretary shall keep a correct record of all the proceedings of the society, conduct its correspondence and devote himself exclusively to the interests of the society. He shall keep a record of all the life members, life directors, legacies, etc. He shall also make out and publish under the direction of the board, an annual report of the whole missionary work; also a quadrennial report to the General Conference. His salary shall be determined by the board and reported to the ensuing General Conference.

§3.—The general church treasurer shall hold the funds of the society, subject to the order of the board of directors signed by the general secretary. The pro-

portion of his salary to be paid by this society shall be determined by the Board of Administration.

§4.—A missionary employed by the board of missions shall receive such salary as in the judgment of the board may be proper.

¶131. **Board of Directors.—§1.** The board of directors shall hold annual meetings; have power to appoint an executive committee consisting of five members; make by-laws to regulate its own business; employ missionaries; make appropriations to mission conferences; employ laborers for mission districts; dissolve mission conferences; fill vacancies in its own body; in connection with the bishops or any one of them, ordain missionaries in its employ to the office of elder, provided such missionaries have taken the course of study required by discipline, or its equivalent; and publish, at our own press, such matter as the cause may from time to time demand.

§2.—The board shall see that the secretary of missions performs his duties in full, and in case he is found derelict, incompetent or delinquent, the board shall have power to remove him from office; provided, however, that he shall not be removed from office until he has been furnished with a copy of the complaints in writing and has had an opportunity of defense before them.

§132. **Mission Districts.**—A mission district shall consist of two or more fields of labor, outside the bounds of an annual conference. Its annual sessions shall be presided over by a bishop, or an elder appointed by the board of missions. At these annual meetings the boundaries of fields of labor shall be fixed, the character of members examined, preachers may be received, examined and passed on course of study and be ordained. A presiding elder shall be appointed by the presiding bishop subject to the approval of the board of missions, and ministers appointed to fill the fields of labor by the presiding officer and the presiding elder.

¶133. **Missionaries.**—Each missionary in the employ of the board shall report quarterly to the secretary the condition of his mission; and no missionary shall be entitled to his salary who shall neglect to comply

with this requirement, or leave his work without the consent of the executive committee or the board of missions, or his presiding elder. The presiding elders of mission districts shall report quarterly to the secretary the condition of the respective works.

¶134. **Branch Organizations.**—§1. **Branch Officers.**—Each conference shall be considered a branch of this society, and shall elect a secretary.

§2. **Treasurer.**—The annual conference treasurer shall be the branch treasurer, and shall hold the funds designed for the board, subject to its order.

§3. **Secretary.**—The branch secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the annual conference in relation to home, frontier and foreign missions, separately, and report the same immediately after the session of the conference to the secretary of the board. He shall report the number of missions, appointments, meeting houses, members at the beginning of the year, members remaining; Sabbath schools, scholars and teachers; what paid on missions; what collected for missions, and the names and postoffice addresses of life directors and life members. The branch secretaries shall be responsible to their respective annual conferences for the faithful discharge of their duties.

§4. **Object of Contributions.**—The branch societies, or individual members may specify to what particular portion of the work their funds shall be applied, provided, however, that if more is thus designated than is necessary for the work specified, it may be applied to some other work, as the board shall determine.

§5. **Home Missions.**—Each branch society shall have the exclusive management of the home missions within its own limits; provided, however, the missionary board shall be permitted to open and operate missions within the bounds of any annual conference, jointly or independently, by the consent of such conference.

¶135. **Treasurer's Security to Boards.**—Treasurers of branch societies shall give approved securities.

¶136. **Bequests.**—All bequests or donations, the interest of which is to go to missionary purposes, made to any of the above societies, shall be kept sacred.

All money given and all property deeded to the missionary society by persons who receive interest on

the money, or retain the use of the property shall not be spent or encumbered during the life-time of the donor.

¶137. **Mission Conferences.**—No mission conference shall be formed with less than three ministers and fifty lay members; and any territory hereafter occupied with less than the above number of members shall be constituted a mission district.

¶138. **Formation of Self-Supporting Conferences.**—The board of missions shall have power at any annual meeting to make any mission conference a self-supporting conference, and shall give notice to the said conference one year before being made self-supporting.

¶139. **Territory of Mission Conferences.**—The board of missions is permitted to occupy any territory within the bounds of an annual conference, not occupied by said conference.

¶140. **Missionary Agent.**—The board of missions is authorized to employ a general missionary agent, who under the direction of the board, shall solicit contributions for the use and purpose of the board, in cash, notes and bequests.

CHAPTER II—WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

Constitution

¶141. **Article 1.**—The name by which this corporation shall be known is "The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ."

Article 2.—Said corporation is not for profit, neither is it to have capital stock.

Article 3.—The principal place of business of said corporation shall be in the City of Huntington, County of Huntington, State of Indiana.

Article 4.—Said corporation of said church is formed for the purpose of engaging and uniting the efforts of the women of said church in sending missionaries into foreign and domestic fields of said United Brethren Church, and supporting said missionaries and other laborers by securing by gifts, by bequests and otherwise, the necessary funds for the aforesaid purpose.

Article II—Membership

The payment of $1.00, annually, shall constitute membership in the Association.

Also:

Life membership, by the payment of $10.00 at one time, or by installments within five years.

Life directorship, by payment of $25.00 at one time, or by installments within five years.

Life Partnership, by the payment of $100.00 at one time, or by installments within four years.

These do not exempt from annual dues.

A certificate is given at time of payment in full.

Life members shall be given recognition in the annual meeting of the branch in which they reside; Life Directors and Patrons shall be advisory members in the annual meeting of the branch in which they reside; Life Patrons shall be advisory members in the annual meeting of the board of managers.

Article III—Organization

The organization of this Association shall consist of a board of managers; nine trustees—one of whom shall be the general secretary and one the general treasurer, and seven others, two or more of whom shall be elected by ballot each year at the annual meeting; branch and local socicties, and conference divisions of young ladies' and children's societies, to be organized under the constitution adopted for each society.

Article IV—Board of Managers

The board of managers shall consist of the board of trustees, the general organizer, and superintendent of the Y. L. M. B. and Harvesters; and three delegates from the entire membership of each branch society, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual branch meeting preceding the meeting of the board of managers.

Article V—Duties of the Board of Managers

The board of managers shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be designated.

The board of managers shall receive and pass upon the reports of the recording secretary, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the organizers, the departmental superintendents, and branch organizers.

The board of managers shall select locations for missions, appoint missionaries, appropriate the funds of the association as the interest of the cause may demant, fix the salaries of the general officers, and attend to the administration and general managment of the affairs of the association.

The board of managers shall elect by ballot the general secretary, the general treasurer, the members of the board of trustees, and at its option a chairman and recording secretary.

Article VI—Board of Trustees

The board of trustees shall consist of nine members, one of whom shall be the general secretary and one the general treasurer, and seven others, all of whom shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the board of managers as designated in Articles III and V.

Article VII—Duties of the Board of Trustees

The board of trustees shall assemble before the close of the annual meeting of the board of managers and organize by electing from its own number the officers provided for in Article VIII, except those which are to be elected by the board of managers.

The board of trustees shall elect an executive committee of five members to act in conjunction with the executive committee of the Domestic, Frontier and Foreign Missionary Society in all matters where both boards are interested; and to attend to any other matters committed to it by the board of trustees.

In the interim between the meetings of the board of managers the board of trustees shall administer the affairs of the association, and have full power to carry out any of the acts of the association and act upon any matter committed to it by the board of managers, and shall have power to fill all vacancies.

The board of trustees shall recommend to the board of managers such actions as it may deem advisable for the benefit of the association.

The board of trustees shall have authority to appoint and empower one or two persons to act for the association with power of attorney when occasion shall arise to demand such action.

Article VIII—General Officers

The officers shall be elected as provided in Articles

V and VII, and shall consist of a president, three or more vice-presidents, a general secretary, a recording secretary, a treasurer, and any other officers deemed necessary.

The duties of the president, vice-presidents, general secretary, recording secretary, and treasurer shall be such as generally devolve on such officers in corporations organized under the laws of Indiana.

Article IX—Relation of the Association to the Church

This association shall work in harmony with the Domestic, Frontier and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, and under the direction of the General Conference of said church; and its missionaries shall be subject to the same rules as the missionaries of the aforesaid missionary society.

Article X—Property

All property of this association shall be vested in the board of trustees to be held in trust by them for the association. All legal papers of the association shall be executed by the president and general secretary of the association who shall sign and seal all such papers, including deeds of transfer, in the name and on behalf of the association.

Article XI—Funds

All funds coming into the hands of the treasurer of the association shall be held subject to the order of the board of trustees, and no funds shall be disbursed by the treasurer except upon the orders of said board duly signed by the general secretary.

Article XII—Bond of the Treasurer

The treasurer shall secure the funds in her hands by giving bond to the amount of not less than ten thousand dollars ($10,000) with satisfactory security.

Article XIII—Corporation Seal

The seal of the corporation shall be of the following device: A stamp with the inscription, The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ, Seal.

Article XIV—Branch Societies

One branch society may be formed within the bounds of any annual conference of the United Brethren Church by the adoption of the branch constitution.

Article XV—By-Laws

The association shall have power to adopt such By-Laws to govern their work as may be deemed necessary from time to time, in harmony with this constitution.

Article XVI—Amendments

This constitution may be altered or amended by a majority vote of the members of the board of managers present at any quadrennial meeting, provided such changes be recommended by the board of trustees and approved by the succeeding General Conference.

Form of Bequest

I give, devise and bequeath to the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ the sum of _____ _____ Dollars for _____

CHAPTER III—CHURCH ERECTION SOCIETY

I. Constitution and By-Laws

¶142. Name.—This society shall be known as "The Church Erection Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ," and is organized for the purpose of aiding feeble churches in the erection of houses of worship.

¶143. Management.—The board of missions shall constitute the board of managers of this society, and shall be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the missionary society so far as they are applicable to this society.

¶144. Apportionments.—It shall be the duty of each annual conference to make a reasonable assessment to its various fields of labor for this interest, which funds, when collected, shall be transmitted to the treasurer.

¶145. Treasurer. — The general church treasurer shall receive and hold the funds of this society, subject to the order of the board. He shall also receipt for all moneys sent him by the various conference treasurers, that they may make settlement with their respective annual conferences.

¶146. Application for Aid.—Application for aid from this society must be made to the board of managers,

through the bishop and the presiding elder of the district and the preacher in charge of the circuit, station or mission where such house is to be erected, who shall state in writing the condition of the society desiring the security of the investment.

¶147. Return of Loans.—Should any society thus aided lose its organization, so as to make the sale of such house necessary, then, out of the proceeds of such sale, the amount loaned them, with interest, shall be refunded to the church erection board.

¶148. Granting Loans.—§1.—The board shall make no appropriations where there is reasonable prospects that the society asking aid can succeed without it, or where there is no prospect of building up a good society.

§2. All funds accuring to the society from conference assessments or by bequests may only be appropriated as a loan, without interest, for such time as the board may direct, but in no case for a longer term than five years at any one time, or more than five hundred dollars to any individual or single church except that in large, growing towns and cities, at the discretion of the board, the amount may be increased to $5,000 and the time extended to ten years. Nevertheless the Society shall be privileged to receive and gather special funds by donation, or otherwise, which may be appropriated as a gift for the erection of new churches in promising territory.

§3. Money shall not be loaned to any society until their church property is secured by warranty deed, and without reverting clause; nor shall moneys be loaned to churches until their trustees have forwarded an abstract of the title of their property and their notes, secured by first mortgage on the premises and properly recorded in the records of the courts for the inspection of the board of managers or executive committee; and all loans shall bear interest at the rate of 6 per centum per annum after maturity.

¶149. Insurance.—Trustees of the churches which receive moneys from the Church Erection Society shall be required to secure said church building from loss by fire in some reliable insurance company.

¶150. Special Agents.—The board of managers may

employ one or more special agents, provided, however, that said agency shall not be continued for a longer term than three months, unless it is apparent that said agency is a financial success to the society.

CHAPTER IV—PREACHERS' AID SOCIETY

I. Constitution

¶151. Name.—This organization shall be known as the "General Preachers' Aid Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ." It is constituted for the purpose of aiding superannuated and unfortunate annual conference itinerants or their widows.

¶152. Management.—The Board of Bishops, the Preachers' Aid general secretary, and three trustees, elected by the General Conference each quadrennium, shall constitute the board of managers of this society. They shall meet annually and organize by electing by ballot a president, vice-president and executive committee of three members. The General Secretary of Preachers' Aid shall be elected by the General Conference.

¶153. Duties of Officers.—§1.—The president shall preside at all meetings of the board and shall have power in conjunction with the general secretary to call special meetings. In the absence of the president the vice-president shall fill his place.

§2.—The general secretary shall keep a correct record of all the proceedings of the society, shall conduct its correspondence an devote himself to the interests of the society. He shall keep a record of all members, legacies, annuities or bequests, etc. He shall make out and publish an annual report containing the names of all donors to the society; also all the receipts and expenditures; and the fourth year of the quadrennium he shall report the entire work of the four years to the General Conference. His salary shall be determined by the board.

§3. The board of managers shall see that the secretary of preachers' aid performs his duties, and in case it finds him derelict, incompetent or delinquent, the board shall have power to remove him from office; provided, however, that he shall not be removed from office until he has been furnished with a copy of the

complaints in writing and has had an opportunity of defense before them.

¶154. **Executive Committee.**—An executive committee of three shall be chosen from its members by the board, who shall during the interim between the meetings of the board investigate calls for help, and in case of emergency give temporary help to the needy in small sums or do any other business committed to them by the board.

¶155. **Revenue.**—The board shall have authority to make small assessments on the annual conferences; to receive annuities, bequests and gifts; and to share in the profits of the Publishing Establishment in such sums as each General Conference may direct. They may make loans and sell or otherwise dispose of real or personal property, invest funds in real estate, appropriate money to assist needy itinerants or their widows and orphans, appropriate funds for salary and traveling expenses of the general secretary as well as defray the expenses of the annual meetings.

¶156. **Meetings.**—This board shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be agreed upon. Special meetings may be called at any time by the order of the president, countersigned by the secretary, upon given seven days notice to the members of the board.

¶157. **Vacancy.**—In case of vacancy in the office of general secretary or in the board of trustees, the remaining members may fill the vacancy.

¶158. **Beneficiaries.**—No minister shall become a beneficiary of this society, who having opportunity, does not himself contribute to the maintenance of this fund.

¶159. **Treasurer.**—The general church treasurer shall be the treasurer of this society. He shall hold the funds of the society subject to the order of the board signed by the general secretary. The proportion of his salary to be paid by this society shall be determined by the Board of Administration.

CHAPTER V.—PUBLISHING ESTABLISHMENT

Constitution

¶160. **Name.**—The above Establishment shall be called "The Publishing Establishment of the United

Brethren in Christ." It shall be under the control of seven trustees who shall be elected by the General Conference and shall hold office for four years. The publishing agent shall be an advisory member.

¶161. Officers.—The officers of the board of trustees shall be a president, vice-president and record secretary. These shall be elected annually beginning at their first regular meeting after the sitting of General Conference and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

¶162. Duties of Agent.

1. It shall be the duty of the publishing agent to take care of the business of the Establishment and act as general manager of the institution.

2. He shall report monthly to the members of the board of trustees and prepare a full and accurate account of the business of the Establishment for them each year. He shall make a report to the General Conference.

3. Should he discover matter offered for publication in the periodicals of the church which he may deem dangerous to the best interest of the institution, he may at his discretion stop such publication, pending a decision of the prudential committee.

4. To the aforesaid duties the agent shall devote his entire time.

¶163. Duties of Trustees

1. It shall be the duty of the trustees to fix the salaries of the agent and editors and see that they properly discharge their duties and if any of them are found derelict, incompetent or delinquent, to remove them from office, provided no such officers shall be removed from office until they have been furnished with a copy of the complaints in writing and have had an opportunity of defence before them.

2. It shall be their duty to meet once a year and receive the report of the publishing agent and expert accountant. They may meet at the call of the president or by three members of the board. They shall prepare and furnish a report to the ensuing General Conference.

3. They shall fill all vacancies that may occur in any of the offices of the Establishment until the sitting of the next General Conference. They shall fix the bond of the agent and see that it is executed.

4. They shall make such by-laws which may seem expedient for the better regulation of the minor con-

cerns of the offices providing they do not violate any part of the foregoing rules or provisions of the charter.

5. They shall elect a prudential committee of three which shall transact business under the direction of the board. Vacancies in the prudential committee may be filled by the committee until the next session of the board.

¶164. Duties of Editors

1. The editors shall have editorial supervision of the composition and literary form of our church papers and Sunday school literature; but this rule shall not be so construed as to permit the editors to dictate the mechanical make-up of the above named periodicals; and to this work they shall devote their entire time.

2. The board shall grant them a reasonable editorial allowance and traveling expenses to the various conferences and conventions.

¶165. Employment of Time.—No officer employed in the Establishment shall accept any office or engage in any other business which will interfere with the duties of his office, or the interest of the Publishing Establishment.

¶166. Proceeds.—The proceeds of said Esthblishment, over and above contingent expenses, shall be applied to the benefit of traveling and worn-out itinerants and their widows and orphans. Any available profit of the Publishing Establishment for this purpose shall be turned into the treasury of the General Preachers' Aid Society of the Church.

CHAPTER VI.—BOARD OF EDUCATION

I. Constitution

¶167. Name.—There shall be a general board of education, known by the name of "The Board of Education," under the care of the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

¶168. Members.—This board shall consist of the board of bishops and six others, one of whom shall be the secretary of education, elected by the General Conference, who shall hold office for four years. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶169. Officers.—§1. —The officers shall be a presi-

dent, vice-president, and recording secretary. These shall be elected annually, beginning at their first regular meeting after the sitting of General Conference, and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

§2.—The secretary of education shall devote such portion of his time to the work of the board as it may direct, his compensation to be fixed by the board.

§3.—The general church treasurer shall receive and hold all funds contributed for educational purposes subject to the orders of the board of education. The proportion of his salary to be paid by this board shall be determined by the Board of Administration.

¶170. **Honorary Members.**—The board shall have power to make persons honorary members of the same by the payment of fifty dollars. The persons thus made honorary members shall have the right to sit in the meetings of the board and engage in its deliberations, but shall have no right to vote.

¶171. **Duties.**—§1.—This board shall have general supervision of the educational work of the church.

§2.—They shall have power to locate and establish all necessary institutions of learning.

§3.—They shall receive all funds raised by the church for the general educational purposes and appropriate the same under the direction of the General Conference.

§4.—They shall have power to raise funds by collections, donations, bequests or otherwise, for the benefit of our educational interests.

§5.—They shall have power to receive money and other donations for educational purposes to be applied as the donors may direct.

§6.—They shall make an estimate at each annual session, of the proper amount to be raised by the church the following year for educational purposes, and present the same to the Board of Administration, which board shall make a proportionate assessment to each annual conference.

§7.—They shall set apart a certain per cent fixed by the General Conference, of all receipts as a beneficiary fund to aid in educating needy young persons who are preparing themselves for the work of the gospel ministry, or for missionary work in the Church of the

United Brethren in Christ, by paying their tuition in our colleges.

§8.—Applicants for beneficiary aid must hold license to preach or exhort, be recommended to this board or to its executive committee by the pastor and presiding elder, or the quarterly conference nearest his residence.

§9. **Vacancy.**—In case of vacancy occuring in the board, it shall have power to fill the vacancy. The election shall be by ballot. There shall be at least one session of the board each year. Other meetings of the board may be called by the president, upon the request of three members.

¶172. **Executive Committee.**—The board shall appoint an executive committee of three or five, which shall transact business under the direction of the board. If a vacancy occurs in the executive committee it may be filled by the executive committee until the next session of the board of education.

¶173. **Trustees of Huntington College.**—By virtue of the Articles of Association of Huntington (Central) College, the Board of Education is constituted the Board of Trustees for the management and control of said institution.

§1. **Officers.**—The officers of the Board of Education shall be the officers of the Board of Trustees; provided, however, that the Board of Trustees shall elect a treasurer for the college.

§2. **Duties of the Board.**—The board of trustees shall be responsible for the management of Huntington College; and shall perform such duties as pertain to the work of such an institution. The business of the board of trustees shall be conducted separately from the business of the board of education.

§3. **By-Laws.**—The board of trustees shall have power to adopt such by-laws as may be necessary for its regulation, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Board of Education.

§4. **Last Annual Meeting of the Quadrennium.**—The Board, in its last annual meeting preceding the sitting of the General Conference, shall transact such business only as pertains to the closing of the work of the year. The election of the president and faculty, to-

gether with all plans for the work of the institution for the ensuing year, shall be left to the incoming board following the General Conference.

§5. **Election of College President.**—Immediately following each General Conference the incoming Board shall elect the President of Huntington College, which election may be for a term of four years; provided, however, that the President shall have the privilege of resigning at any time by giving the Board at least thirty days notice of his intention to do so; and provided further, that in case the President isfound incompetent or delinquent in performing his duties; or insubordinate to the policies of the Board, he shall be required to resign his position, provided, however, that such resignation shall not be effective until he has been furnished a copy of the complaints in writing and has had an opportunity of defence before the Board.

¶174. **Endowment and Other Funds.**—All moneys or values of any kind given as an endowment for educational purposes shall be held sacred as a permanent fund and securely invested, the interest only to be used in the maintenance of Huntington College. All other funds shall be used as the interests of the College may require or as the donors may direct.

These funds shall not be dissipated and jeopardized by loans to the contingent fund of the college and spent for current expenses; and these funds shall not be loaned to the members of the board, or officers or teachers of the college, or others who are personally interested in the care and safe keeping of these funds.

¶175. **Reports.**—They shall make an annual financial exhibit through the church paper, and the secretary of education shall make a full quadrennial report to the General Conference.

CHAPTER VII—GENERAL CHURCH TREASURY

¶176. **Election.**—§1. **General Duties.**—The General Conference shall elect a general church treasurer, who shall be the treasurer of the board of trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and who shall receive and disburse, on order, the funds of the Domestic, Frontier and Foreign Missionary Society, the Church Erection Society, the Board of

Religious Education—Sunday School and United Brethren Christian Endeavor, the Board of Education, the Preachers' Aid Society, the General Expense Fund, and other benevolent funds of the Church.

§2. **Special Duties.**—The treasurer shall keep an accurate book account of all his receipts and disbursements, keeping separate accounts for different funds: and in no case shall the funds of one department be transferred to and used in another department.

§3 **Accountability and Vacancy.**—Said treasurer is required to act upon the order of the various boards which he serves as treasurer, and shall upon request of the board of administration report to them in full and in detail all funds of which he is custodian. Further, power is hereby vested in said board of administration for cause to declare the office of the general church treasurer vacant, and the said board of administration shall also have power to fill such vacancy.

§4. **Bonding.**—Said treasurer shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duty, the bond to be fixed by the board of bishops and the salary by the General Conference.

§5. **Location of Office.**—The office of the general church treasurer shall be located at the headquarters of the church in the city of Huntington, Indiana.

PART FIFTH

MISCELLANEOUS

CHAPTER I—SPECIAL RULES

I. Moral Reforms

¶177. Temperance. — §1. — The distilling, vending giving or using of intoxicating drink as a beverage, shall be and is hereby forbidden throughout our church, as is also the renting or leasing of property to be used for the manufacture or sale of such beverages; also the signing of petitions for license or the entering as bondsmen for persons engaged in the traffic of intoxicating drinks, or in any way sanctioning the liquor traffic; and should any one of our members or preachers be found guilty in these respects they shall be dealt with as in the case of other immoralities; provided, however, that this rule shall not be so construed as to prevent druggists and others from vending or using it for medicinal or mechanical purposes.

§2.—Pursuant to the admonition of the Holy Scriptures to cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the flesh, we hereby earnestly admonish our members to abstain from the use of tobacco.

¶178.*Slavery.—§1.—All slavery in every sense of the word, is totally prohibited, and shall in no way be tolerated in our church. Should any be found in our society who hold slaves, they can not continue as members unless they do personally manumit or set free such slaves.

§2.—And when it is known to any of our ministers in charge of a circuit, station or mission, that any of its members hold a slave or slaves, he shall admonish such members to manumit such slave or slaves; and if such persons do not take measures to carry out the discipline, they shall be expelled by the proper authorities of the church; and any minister refusing to attend to the duties above described shall be dealt with by the authorities to which he is amenable.

*This law in its essential prohibitory features was adopted by the General Conference in 1821, Bishop Newcomer presiding. It was amended to its present form in 1826.

¶179. Secret Combinations.—§1.—A secret combination is an organization whose members are pledged to conceal their initiatory ceremony, their obligation, or their inside workings. We believe that these combinations are evil and that Christians ought not to be connected with them, for the apostle expressely says: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you and be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

§2.—Any member or preacher who shall connect himself with a secret combination shall be regarded as having withdrawn from the church. But in case such offending members shall sever their connection with such combination, such members may be borne with and retained as members of the church.

§3.—And in the annual revision of the class book each preacher in charge of a work shall see to it that no names of members of secret combinations are retained on the class book; neither shall they be reported to the annual conference chart. For the faithful discharge of this duty, the preacher shall be amenable to the annual conference.

¶180. Legal Testimony.—We believe that the mode of testifying to the truth when required to do so in a legal form, by way of affirmation, is on us solemnly, conscientiously and fully binding before God, to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

¶181. War.—§1. We positively record our disapproval of engaging in voluntary, national, aggressive warfare; yet we recognize the rightful authority of the civil government, and hold it responsible for the preservation and defense of our national compact against treason or invasion by any belligerent force; and we believe it to be entirely consistent with the spirit of Christianity to bear arms when called upon

to do so by the properly constituted authorities of the government for its preservation and defense.

§2.—However, we wish to go on record as a church, as being much in favor of national, international, and universal peace; and it is the perpetual aim of this church to do all we can to hasten the much desired universal peace, when Christ shall be recognized by the whole world as the Prince of Peace and the whole world shall reverently bow to Him as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

¶182. **Divorce.**—§1.—We believe that the marriage relation is of divine authority; that it is the mutual union of one man and one woman; that the obligation is most sacred and morally binding so long as both shall live and therefore can not be dissolved at will. and should not be dissolved by a decree of a civil tribunal, except on evidence that one party is guilty of adultery.

§2.—On positive evidence of such guilt, the innocent party is freed from further matrimonial obligations and justly entitled to divorce.

§3.—We deny the right of marriage by virtue of a divorce when the fact of adultery does not exist on the part of a person from whom the divorce is obtained, and therefore the right of the guilty party to remarry.

§4.—Any person sustaining a marriage relation contrary to that above recognized as justifiable shall be ineligible to the office of the ministry in this church.

§5.—Any minister of this church who shall knowingly soleminize the marriage of persons, either of whom has been divorced for other than the above justifiable cause, shall be amenable to the church for disobedience to the order thereof.

II. Visiting Committee

¶183. **How constituted.**—At the beginning of the year the pastor shall appoint a visiting committee in each society on his charge, whose duty it shall be as occasion may require, to visit the sick in the society and community; and to administer comfort and relief; to visit the poor and ascertain whether they are in need of aid; to visit the delinquent and to pray with them and encourage and exhort them to faithfulness in the means of grace; to visit strangers who may

move into the community and welcome them and invite them to attend and, if Christians, to participate in the religious services.

¶184. Duty of Visiting Committee.—The committee shall from time to time, make a report to the pastor of the result of their work and investigation, especially such matter as may demand his attention.

¶185. Care of the Sick and the Poor.—Whenever, by reason of sickness, accident or other unavoidable circumstances, there shall be in any of our societies persons who are needy, it shall be the duty of the pastor or leader in charge to appoint a committee to visit all the members of the society and others to solicit money, clothing or provisions, as the case may demand, to supply their needs. And should any one society be unable to supply the needs of its poor, the pastor shall make known the facts to the other societies on his charge who shall in like manner solicit for the purpose; and should one charge be unable to supply the needs of its poor, the presiding elder of the district shall present the matter to the quarterly conferences of the several charges in his district, and they shall provide for a similar canvass of the more able societies on their charges, in order that the unavoidably poor among us may be cared for.

III. Doctrinal Publications

¶186. Book Committee.—§1.—The board of bishops, the editor of the Christian Conservator, the editor of religious education, and the professor of theology of Huntington College constitute a book committee, without whose sanction no book shall be published in the name of the church.

§2—They shall be a permanent reading committee who shall recommend to the revision committee such changes in the courses of study as they may deem advisable, and have power to make changes in the courses of study during the interim between the sittings of General Conference.

§3—They shall prepare questions on the courses of study for deaconesses, and for quarterly and annual conference preachers.

¶187. Authorship of Doctrinal Publications.—No one of our preachers or laymen shall become the author of any doctrinal book or pamphlet, in a printed form, in the name of the church, without the approbation of the book committee on doctrinal publications. And if any preacher or layman violates this rule, he shall be accountable to the class, or to the quarterly or annual conference, as the case may be.

PART SIXTH

PROPERTY

CHAPTER I.—CHURCHES AND PARSONAGES.

I. Security of Property.

¶188. How to Be Secured.—All church property shall be secured by warranty deeds and held in trust by the board of trustees, and who shall be incorporated according to the law of the state or province in which it is located.

II. Boards of Trustees.

¶189. Quarterly Conference Trustees.—§1. How Constituted.—The quarterly conference shall elect a board of trustees of not less than three persons for any of its societies, appointments, or a circuit, mission or station when the contemplation of possessing or controlling property in behalf of the church by any of these bodies or places shall be known to it; but at least two-thirds of the members of such boards of trustees shall be members of our church. The trustees shall be elected by ballot, for a term of three years, one or more of whose terms shall expire each year. Election to be held at the fourth quarterly conference.

Provided, however, that at the first election under this provision, one or more shall be elected for one year, one or more for two years, and one or more for three years; and at the expiration of their first term, their successors shall be elected for three years.

§2. Building of Church Houses and Parsonages.—No society shall commence the building of a meeting house or parsonage without first getting an act of incorporation where the law of the state or province requires it. They shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to procure a lot to build, and to make such other improvements as may be considered necessary, and they shall at no time proceed beyond their means either in hand or sufficiently assured, and thus avoid seriously involving our houses in debt.

§3.—Sale and Rent of Church Houses and Parsonages.—The quarterly conference may authorize the board of trustees to lease, rent, or sell church or parsonage property within its jursidiction, except in the Dominion of Canada, where they shall conform to the

requirements of the law; provided, however, that said proceeds shall be used in purchasing, repairing, or building new church or parsonage property within its bounds, except the interest or rents accruing from parsonage property which may be applied to pay rent on the house occupied by the pastor. Provided further, that no church house shall be sold that would result in the disbanding of a class, without the consent of the annual conference within the bounds of which said property is located.

¶190. **Advisory Building Council.**—All our churches and parsonages should be favorably located, well arranged and economically builded. To this end each annual conference may elect an advisory building council consisting of from three to five members.

Where any society, mission or circuit contemplates building, remodeling or furnishing a church or parsonage, the building committee may apply to this council for advice in the matter, which advice shall be furnished when application is made for the same.

¶191. **Duties of Trustees.**—The trustees shall hold meetings annually, or oftener if need be, and shall elect from their number the following officers: A president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The meetings of the board shall be subject to the call of the president or the majority of the board. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the board; of the secretary to keep a correct record of all business transactions of the board, in a book provided for that purpose, which shall at all times be open for inspection by its conference; of the treasurer to receive all funds for property purposes, and pay out the same under the direction of the board and report to the board the financial condition at the several meetings. It shall be the duty of each board to see that church houses and parsonages are properly insured. Every board shall present a written report annually to its conference, except those appointed by the General Conference, who shall present their reports to the General Conference, or report under its direction.

¶192. **Annual Conference Trustees.**—The annual conferences shall elect boards of trustees, to acquire, control or dispose of property in trust for the Church of

the United Brethren in Christ, and they shall hold their office until their successors are elected, at the pleasure of the annual conference.

¶193. General Board of Trustees. — The General Conference may elect a board of trustees, of not less than seven persons, which shall be known as The General Board of Trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ (Old Constitution) the members of which shall hold their office for four years and until their successors are elected, which board shall become duly incorporated, and shall hold and control all church property and funds not otherwise provided for, subject to the direction of the General Conference. The general church treasurer is the treasurer of this board of trustees.

¶194. Vacancies.—When a vacancy occurs in any of the foregoing boards of trustees the conference to which it is amenable shall fill such vacancy, except boards of trustees elected by the General Conference, which may be filled by it or under its direction, and in all cases the board shall see that the records required by the civil law governing such cases shall correspond to the facts.

III. Vacant Houses and Parsonages

¶195. Vacant Houses.—When any of our houses on vacant fields of labor cease to be used by our people for religious purposes, and are left without a properly constituted board of trustees, the presiding elder of the district on which the vacancy occurs shall notify the board of trustees appointed by the annual conference for the purpose of taking charge of such property, who shall hold the property in trust to control, rent or sell as the annual conference may direct, provided, however, that should the district be without a presiding elder, the bishop of the annual conference shall notify said board of trustees.

¶196. Vacant Parsonages.—**§1.** When a pastor refuses to reside in the parsonage, the disposition of the proceeds arising from rent, or otherwise, shall be determined by the quarterly conference.

§2.—When a parsonage is left without a properly constituted board of trustees, the presiding elder of the district shall notify the board of trustees, elected

by the annual conference for the purpose of taking charge of such property, who shall hold the property in trust, as in other cases provided; but should the district be without a presiding elder, the bishop of the conference shall notify said board of trustees.

¶197. Presiding Elder's Duties.—It shall be the duty of our presiding elders, as soon as convenient, to appoint, or see that three or five suitable persons are appointed, with the consent of the quarterly conference, to take up subscriptions to build or purchase parsonage houses for their respective stations or circuits, the same to be deeded to a legal board of trustees, and their successors in office, for the use of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

¶198. Division of Interest.—In cases where fields of labor having parsonages upon them are divided, the disposition of said parsonages shall be submitted to a board of arbiters, consisting of three members of the church, one to be chosen by each quarterly conference, and a third by these two, to whom the whole matter shall be referred. From their decision an appeal may be taken to annual conference. In cases where more than two quarterly conferences are interested, the same plan shall be pursued.

PART SEVENTH

BOUNDARIES, FORMULAS AND FORMS

I. Bishops' Districts

¶199. North District.—Ontario, Sandusky, North Ohio, Michigan, North Michigan Mission Conference, Iowa Mission Conference, Nebraska Mission Conference and Detroit Mission District.

¶200. South District.—Pennsylvania, Virginia Mission Conference, Scioto, Auglaize, White River, Rock River, Missouri Mission Conference, Neosho Mission Conference, Kansas, and Imperreh West Africa Mission District.

¶201. Pacific District.—California Mission Conference, Oregon Mission Conference, Walla Walla Mission Conference, Idaho Mission Conference and Alberta Mission District.

II. Conference Boundaries

¶202. Alberta Mission District.—Embraces all territory in northwest Canada.

¶203. Auglaize.—Beginning at the mouth of the Great Miami river, thence north on the Ohio state line to Union City; thence with the C. C. C. & I railroad to Winchester; thence on a straight line to (but not including) Huntington; thence along the Wabash railroad to Defiance, Ohio, including Fort Wayne; thence to Kalida, Ohio; thence to Cairo; thence to Dunkirk; thence along the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad to Forest; thence southward along the Scioto conference line to Ripley; thence along the Ohio river to the place of beginning.

¶204. California.—Embraces all the state of California.

¶205. Detroit Mission District.—Comprises the City of Detroit.

¶206. Idaho.—Embraces all the state of Idaho except township 40 N., Range 5, West Boise M., Lathah county, adjacent to Walla Walla conference; the county of Washington adjacent to Lewiston, Idaho, including Peola; and also the Grand Round and Wallowa valleys in Oregon.

¶207. Imperreh Mission District.—Embraces all of Sierra Leone, West Africa.

¶208. **Iowa.**—Embraces all that portion of the state of Iowa, north of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad running from Davenport to DesMoines and Omaha; also the state of Wisconsin.

¶209. **Kansas.**—Beginning at the southwest corner of Miami county, Kansas; thence west to the center of McPherson county; thence west along the line of the A. T. & S. F railway to the Colorado line; thence north to the Nebraska line; thence east to the Missouri river; thence on the Kansas and Missouri line to the place of beginning.

¶210. **Michigan.**—Beginning at the shore of Lake Erie, at the northeast corner of Monroe county, Michigan; thence west on the north line of Lenawee, Hillsdale and Branch counties to the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad; thence by said railroad to Kalamazoo; thence by the South Haven and Kalamazoo railroad to South Haven; thence along the shore of Lake Michigan to Grand Haven; thence by the Detroit and Milwaukee railroad east to (but not including) the city of Detroit; thence down the Detroit river and the western shore of Lake Erie to the place of beginning.

¶211. **Missouri.**—Embraces all that portion of the state of Missouri, lying north of the Missouri river; and all that portion of the state of Iowa south of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad, running from Davenport to DesMoines and Omaha.

¶212. **Nebraska.**—Embraces the states of Nebraska and South Dakota.

¶213. **Neosho.**—Beginning at the southwest corner of Chautauqua county, Kansas; thence north to the south line of Kansas conference; thence due east to the northeast corner of Linn county; thence on the state line south to the southeast corner of the state of Kansas, and thence west to the place of beginning; the state of Oklahoma; all of the state of Missouri south of the Missouri river; and three tiers of counties in North Arkansas.

¶214. **North Michigan.**—Embraces that part of the state of Michigan north of the Detroit, Milwaukee and Grand Haven railroad (not including any part of Detroit).

¶215. **North Ohio.**—Beginning at the northwest corner of Branch county, Michigan; thence east on the north line of Branch, Hillsdale, Lenawee and Monroe counties to the northeast corner of Monroe county; thence on the coast of Lake Erie to the mouth of the Maumee river; thence to and including Walbridge; thence northernly to the west limits of the city of Toledo; thence up the said Maumee river to Defiance, Ohio; thence up the Wabash railroad (the towns which this line touches to be included within North Ohio conference), to Fort Wayne; thence (leaving Fort Wayne to Auglaize conference) proceeding down the Wabash Railway to Lafayette, (exclusive of College Park and the city of Huntington); and thence go from Lafayette to Michigan City on the Lafayette and Michigan City railroad; thence north along the lake shore to South Haven, Michigan; thence to Kalamazoo over the Kalamazoo and South Haven railroad; thence south on the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad to the north line of St. Joseph county; thence east on the county line to the place of beginning.

¶216. **Ontario.**—Embraces all the Province of Ontario in the Dominion of Canada.

¶217. **Oregon.**—Embraces all that portion of country lying west of the Cascade range of mountains in both Oregon and Washington.

¶218. **Pennsylvania.**—Embraces all the state of Maryland and all the state of Pennsylvania excepting the counties of Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Vanango, Warren, McKean and Potter.

¶219. **Rock River.**—The state of Illinois, and that part of the state of Indiana which is bounded on the west by the Illinois state line, on the south by White river, and by a line running up said river and along the south, west and north lines of Marion county to the crossing of the Indianapolis and Peru railroad; thence on the Strawtown road to Lafayette; thence by the Lafayette and Michigan City railroad to Michigan City; and along the lake shore to the Illinois state line.

¶220. **Sandusky.**—Beginning at the northeast corner of the state of Ohio; thence northeast along the

eastern shore of Lake Erie to Buffalo; thence down the Niagara river to Lake Ontario; thence east along the southern shore of Lake Ontario to the northeast corner of Monroe county, New York; thence due south to the New York and Pennsylvania state line; thence west along the said state line to Potter county, Pennsylvania; thence south along the east line of said county to Clinton county; thence west along the southern lines of Potter, McKean and Warren counties to Venango county; thence south and west along the eastern and southern lines of Venango and Mercer counties to the Pennsylvania and Ohio state line; thence south along the state line and the Ohio river to the mouth of the Muskingum river; thence up said river to Dresden; thence west along the Cochocton and Knox county lines to the southwest corner of Knox county; thence along the west and north lines of said county to the southwest corner of Ashland county; thence with the north line of Scioto conference to Forest; thence west on the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne railroad to Johnstown; thence to Cairo; thence to Kalida; thence to Defiance; thence down the Maumee river to the west limits of the city of Toledo, Ohio; thence to Walbridge, (not including Walbridge); thence to the mouth of the Maumee river; thence along the southern shore of Lake Erie to the place of beginning.

¶221. **Scioto.**—Beginning at Forest, Ohio; thence east on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad to the east line of Richland county; thence south to the north and west line of Knox county; thence to the southwest corner of said county; thence east along the line of Knox and Coshocton counties to Dresden; thence down the Muskingum and Ohio rivers to Ripley, Ohio; thence northward to the southwest corner of Highland county; thence north along the west lines of Highland, Fayette, Madison and Union counties to the Pan Handle railroad; thence east on said railroad to Milford; thence on the C. C. C. and I. railroad to the east line of Union county; thence along the east and north lines of Union and the east line of Hardin county to a point directly east of Forest; and thence west to Forest; provided that Forest, Pleasant Ridge,

Upper Sandusky, North Robinson, Crestline and Osceola circuits shall be retained in Sandusky conference.

¶222. **Virginia.**—Embraces all the state of Virginia.

¶223. **Walla Walla.**—Embraces all that portion of Oregon and Washington lying east of the Cascade mountains, except the county in Washington adjacent to Lewiston, Idaho, and the Grand Round and Wallowa valleys, and Harney, Grant, Baker and Malheur counties in Oregon; and also, township 40 N., Range 5, West Boise M., Lathah county, in Idaho, to be included in Walla Walla.

¶224. **White River.**—Beginning at the crossing of White river by the Indianapolis and Peru railroad; thence along said railroad to the Wabash river; thence up said river to Huntington, including College Park and the city of Huntington; thence on a straight line to Winchester; thence eastward along the railroad to the Ohio and Indiana state line; thence south along the state line to the Ohio river; thence down the said river to the mouth of the Wabash river; thence up said river and White river to the south line of Marion county; thence north to the northeast corner of said county; thence east on the north line of said county to the Peru and Indianapolis railway, Kokomo and all towns and churches on and in the vicinity of Indianapolis and Peru railroad, south, are within the bounds of White River conference.

III. Formulas

¶225. **Ordination of Elders.**—

1. On the day appointed there shall be a suitable sermon delivered.

2. After their names have been read aloud the bishop or an elder shall read the following articles to all who may be chosen for ordination:

An elder "must be blameless, as the steward of God, not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate, holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."—Titus 1: 7-9.

Ques. Are you assured that you are inwardly moved

by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the ministry, to serve God in the Church of Christ to the honor and glory of His name? If so, answer, "I trust I am."

Ques. Do you believe the Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments? If so answer, "I do believe them."

Ques. Will you apply due diligence to frame and fashion your life according to the doctrine of Christ, and to make yourself as much as in you lieth a wholesome example of the flock of Christ? If so, answer, "I will, the Lord being my helper."

Ques. Will you obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, and follow their godly admonitions with a willing and ready mind? If so, answer, "I will endeavor, through the grace of God, to do so."

Then prayer is to be offered.

After prayer the bishop and elders shall lay their hands upon the head of each one of them and say:

"Take thou authority to execute the office of an elder in the Church of God in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost."

Hereupon the bishop or an elder shall deliver to each one of them the Holy Bible, saying:

"Take thou authority to preach the Word of God and to administer the ordinances in the Church of Christ."

Then the bishop or elder shall pray. And after prayer he shall read from Luke 12: 35-38:

"Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that, when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching; verily, I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants."

After this the following benediction is to be pronounced:

The peace of God keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶226. Consecration of Deaconesses.—Upon the consecration of deaconesses a suitable sermon or address shall be delivered, with such other appropriate exercises as shall be desired.

The officiating Bishop or Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved Sister: The spirit of Jesus has led you to open your heart to the divine call to sacrificial service. The same Jesus who was ministered to by Mary and Martha, is calling for sympathy and ministry of loving sisters to carry his benediction of peace and comfort to the wounded and distressed. Women were last at the cross and first at the tomb. So have their devotion to the Master and his holy cause ever been manifested. And as the women of all the ages have been the angels of mercy on fields of courage, in hospitals and homes, so have they been the heralds of salvation and true examples of the spirit of devotion and service in the Church of Christ. We rejoice with you that a door of usefulness has been opened to you. Opportunity of inestimable value is accorded to you. You are to be released from the cares of the world and give yourself so far as in you lieth to the great work in the vineyard of the Lord. You will visit the homes of the needy and afflicted, carrying to them relief and comfort; you will pray with the dying, minister to the widow and orphans, hunt out the sinning and lead them to salvation. This is a high and holy calling. It is a position of great honor, but one of grave responsibility. May the true solemnity of this service be felt. As you have given yourself to God in consecration for this service, you are now to be publicly set apart in the presence of the Church.

The following questions should be asked:

Do you believe that you are moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon yourself the duties of this office and engage in this work?

Answer: I trust I am.

Will you faithfully perform the duties of the holy office of a deaconess in the Church of Christ?

Answer: I will through the grace of God.

Will you endeavor to fashion your life so that you shall be able to convey to those to whom you minister the hallowed presence of Jesus Christ?

Answer: I will, the Lord helping me.

Will you cheerfully accept the authority and direction of those whom the church has placed over you, and follow them in all of your work?

Answer: I will.

Do you believe the Bible, Old and New Testaments, to be the only true and inspired Word of God?

Answer: I do.

Have you entered into personal fellowship with Christ, and have you now peace with God through Him.

Answer: I have.

Will you maintain the doctrines and practices of this church upon all proper occasions?

Answer: I will.

Prayer by Bishop or Elder, the candidate kneeling. After the prayer the candidate shall stand, and the officiating minister shall continue:

May the Spirit of the living God descend upon you and abide with you forever. May He give you grace for every trial and the spirit of wisdom for every duty. May this abundant blessing be upon you through Jesus Christ by the Holy Ghost, and make you faithful unto every good work.

The Bishop taking the candidate by the hand shall say:

Take thou authority to take upon you the office of a Deaconess in the Church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

The Bishop shall read Matt. 25: 31-40.

Delivery of Certificate, standing.

Song, "Take My Life and Let It Be."

Benediction.

The peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the love of God, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶227. Solemnization of Marriage.—§1. Who May Solemnize Marriage.—All ordained ministers may solemnize marriages and those that have obtained license from an annual conference where the law of

the state or province makes it the privilege of every regularly licensed minister to solemnize marriage; but none having quarterly conference license are permitted to solemnize marriage, nor annual conference licentiates not in charge of a field of labor.

§2. **Marriage Ceremony.**—We are gathered together in the sight of God and in the presence of these witnesses to join together N. and M. as husband and wife. If any person present knows any just cause or impediment why these persons should not be joined in marriage, let the same now speak or forever after keep silent.

(If no impediment be alleged then shall the minister say unto the man):

N., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live with her after God's ordinance? Wilt thou love, honor and comfort her in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her so long as ye both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

(Then shall the minister say to the woman):

M., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live with him after God's ordinance? Wilt thou love, honor and comfort him in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him so long as ye both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

(When desired this ring ceremony may here be attended):

The minister, receiving the ring from the groomsman or other person, shall deliver it to the bridegroom who, while placing the ring on the finger of the bride, shall repeat after the minister the following words:

"With the endowment of this ring, I pledge you my honor and devotion as a husband, according to the bond of marriage of which this ring is a symbol."

(Then the minister shall require them to join their hands, and say):

"Inasmuch as N. and M. have consented together in marriage, and have witnessed the same before God and these witnesses, I pronounce them husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen".

¶228. Burial of the Dead.—§1. Usual Form.—After the coffin is lowered into the grave, the minister, if the deceased is a child or an adult Christian, shall repeat the following:

"Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not." "Lord, make me know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is, that I amy know how frail I am."

"In the midst of life we are in death; unto whom should we seek for succor but unto thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased." "Our hope is in thy son Jesus Christ, who hath said, 'I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.'" "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

Inasmuch as God in His wise providence has called out of time into eternity the soul of our brother, sister, or child, we commit his (or her) remains to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the confident hope of the general resurrection through the Lord Jesus Christ, at His coming and glory, that this corruptible body shall be raised up and fashioned like unto the glorious body of Christ, be reunited with the soul, and be received into everlasting habitations. Amen.

Benediction.

§2. An Alternate Burial Service.—Forasmuch as our friend (or neighbor, or fellow mortal) has departed this life, we commit his body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, remembering also our own mortality and the brevity of human life, and the certainty that one day we, too, shall take our abode, in the final resting place appointed for all the

living. O Lord have mercy upon us, and grant that we may all take solemn warning from this sorrowful event, and be enabled by thy grace to make ample preparation for the day of our final departure, that when we die we may be ready to enter into the rest that remaineth for the people of God. "For man dieth and wasteth away; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the river wasteth and drieth up, so man lieth down and riseth not; till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake nor be aroused out of their sleep." "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom," and prepare to meet our God. O Lord, our times are in thy hand, and grant thou to us grace that when the time shall come for us to join the innumerable throng that moves to the pale realms of death, we may be found acceptable in thy sight, and in the great day be numbered with those to whom thy well-beloved Son shall pronounce the welcome: "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." And now may consoling grace and loving sympathy abide upon these who today mourn and sorrow, and may the Holy Spirit graciously visit these hearts with consoling tenderness and bring us all into complete agreement with the providential and gracious dealing of our heavenly Father. Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator, Advocate and Redeemer. Amen.

¶229. Church Dedication Service.—

1. Scripture reading. (Psalm 84; or Isaiah 62 and Psalm 122).
2. Singing.
3. Prayer.
4. Singing.
5. Sermon
6. Monetary offering.
7. Singing.
8. Reading, with congregation standing.

"But will God indeed dwell upon the earth? Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens can not contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded.

"Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord, my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee today:

"That thine eye may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou has said, My name shall be there; that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.

"And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place and hear thou in heaven, thy dwelling place; when thou hearest, forgive.

"If any man trespass against his neighbor, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house; then hear thou in heaven, and do and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

"When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house; then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sins of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto their fathers.

"When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them; then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

"If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locusts, or if there be caterpillar; if their enemy beseige them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; what prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all the people of Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart.

and spread forth his hands toward this house: then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men:) that they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou givest unto our fathers.

"Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (for they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm; when he shall come and pray toward this house; hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that people of the earth may know thy name to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name." I Kings 8: 27-43.

"We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool." Psalm 132:7.

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion: he hath desired it for his habitation.

"This is my rest forever; here will I dwell for I have desired it.

"I will abundantly bless her provisions: I will satisfy her poor with bread. I will also clothe her priests with salvation; and her saints shall shout aloud for joy." Psalm 132: 13-16.

"Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

"Now, therefore, arise, O Lord God, into thy resting place, thou and the ark of thy strength; let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness." II Chron. 6: 40-41.

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting, and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the Lord." Psalm 106: 48.

9. Charge to the trustees.

10. Delivery of the keys in the name of the Trinity to hold in trust for God and the United Brethren in Christ.

11. Doxology.

12. Benediction.

¶230. Order of Service in Public Worship.—The better to promote unity and the spirit of devotion in public worship we earnestly recommend the following order of service for use in our churches:

1. Hymn. Congregation standing.
2. Scripture Reading. Pastor or Minister.
3. Song. Congregation standing.
4. Prayer, by Pastor or Minister. All kneeling.
5. Hymn, by congregation, or special.
6. Monetary Offering, without song. Soft instrumental music may be rendered when practicable.
7. Announcements. All the program of the church for the week, or more, to be clearly stated to the congregation.
10. Benediction. Pastor or Minister.

When public worship is an evening service it may be modified as required; where practicable it should be evangelistic, seeking opportunity at all times to win men to Christ.

IV. Forms

¶231. Certificate of Transfer.—§1. Members.—This is to certify that A B is an acceptable member of the United Brethren in Christ, at _____ Society _____ Charge _____ conference, and is hereby transferred to _____ Society of _____ Charge, _____ conference.

_____ Pastor.

(Dates, etc.)

* * * * * *

Certificate of Reception.

This is to certify that _____ has been accepted on _____ transfer and _____ name has been placed on the Church record at _____ Society. _____ Charge, _____ conference.

_____ Pastor.

(Detach this Certificate of Reception from the Certificate of Transfer and return it to the pastor whence the transfer came.)

§2. Preachers.—

This is to certify that _____ is a

regular _____ or _____ in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, of _____ conference, and is hereby transferred to _____ _____ conference of said Church.

[Signed]

_____ Bishop.

_____Secretary.

(Dates, etc.)

¶232. Certificate of Dismissal.—§1. Members.—

This is to certify that A B has been until this date a member in good standing in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at _____, and at _____ request is dismissed from the church by a vote of the class.

_____ Pastor.

(Dates, etc.)

§2. Preachers.—

This is to certify that A B has been until this date a minister in good standing in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, in _____ annual conference and at _____ request is dismissed from the ministry of the church.

[Signed]

_____ Bishop.

_____ _____Secretary.

(Dates, etc.)

¶233. Letter of Recommendation.—This is to certify that A B is a member in good standing in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at _____ and is hereby recommended to the confidence and fellowship of Christians everywhere.

_____ Pastor.

(Dates, etc.)

¶234. Form of Bequest.—

I give and bequeath to the _____ of the United Brethren in Christ, to use for the advancement of the cause of _____ _____ in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as represented by those who adhere to and act under the constitution of 1841 unchanged, the sum of _____ dollars, and the receipts of the treasurer of said board

shall be sufficient discharge thereof to my executors and administrators.

¶235. Form of Deed.—

THIS INDENTURE, Made this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ____ between _____ of the Township of _____, County of _____ and State of _____ party of the first part, and _____ trustees, and their successors in office, forever, in trust for _____ Society, elected by the Quarterly Conference of _____ (field), of the _____ Annual Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ (Old Constitution), party of the second part,

WITNESSETH, That the party of the first part, for and in consideration of _____, in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipts of which is hereby confessed and acknowledged, do _____ by these presents grant, bargain, sell, remise, release, alien, convey, confirm and warrant unto the party of the second part, the said trustees, and their successors in office and assigns, forever, the following Real Estate, being that certain piece or parcel of land situated and being in the Township of _____, County of _____, and State of _____ and described as follows, to-wit: Together with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any way pertaining; to have and to hold the said premises as described, with the appurtenances, unto the said trustees and their successors in office and assigns, forever, IN TRUST for the use and benefit of said Society, subject to the usages, doctrines, and disciplinary measures of the said Church as from time to time declared by the lawful authorities of said Church, so long as the said Society shall exist, and upon the dissolution or disbanding of said Society, the said premises, as described, shall be subject to the provisions of said Church relating to vacant houses or vacated property. And the said _____ party of the first part, for _____ and _____ heirs, executors, and administrators, do

____ covenant, grant, bargain and agree to and with said party of the second part, and their successors in office and assigns, that at the time of ensealing and delivery of these presents _____ well seized of the above granted premises in fee simple; that they are free from all encumbrances what ever, and that _____ will and _____ heirs, executors and administrators shall warrant and defend the same against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof the said party of the first part, grantor, _____ ha_____ hereunto set _____ hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Witnesses of signatures:

(Seals)

Signatures

Acknowledgment:

(If preferred, where the word Church is first used in the deed form the following may be used: "Church of the United Brethren in Christ, which acknowledges and is subject to the Constitution adopted A. D. 1841, by the Church then known by that name, unchanged to date, party of the second part," etc.)

NOTE: The above form may need to be departed from in particulars where states or provinces provide diverse forms. But the name of the church should be used with care. Observe provisions, where made, for dower rights, and separate acknowledgements of husband and wife, and any other special provisions, not noted in the general deed form, but required by a state or province.

APPENDIX

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE CHURCH TREASURER

Date _____

Field of Labor _____

Name of Class _____

MONEY COLLECTED

	Collected	Paid Out	On Hand
Pastor's Salary			
Presiding Elder's Salary			
Missions			
Education			
S. S. General Fund			
Bishop's Collection			
Preachers' Aid			
Church Erection			
Total			

_____ Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

(To Supporters. Helpful Under Envelope System.)

For the _____ period, ending _____ 19 ____
Total budget for current year is $_____. This includes Pastor's salary, $_____; Janitor's salary, $_____; Presiding Elder's salary and Conference Assessments, $_____; and a small surplus as a contingent fund.

Amount in treasury after payment of bills to date _____ $_____

Amount of deficit _____ $_____

To Our Contributor:

(Name:) _____

Your weekly proportion is _____ $_____
(Multiply by 52 to get yearly amount.)

Amount of your offerings received to date $_____

In case of error, see the undersigned at once, who will gladly canvass the records with you. Thank you.

_____ Financial Secretary.

U. B. C. E. QUARTERLY REPORT

For quarter ending _____ 19____
Place of holding meetings _____
Number of meetings held _____
Consecration meetings held _____
Average attendance _____
Number of conversions in society _____
Number of active members _____
Number of associate members _____
Number of honorary members _____
Number of new members _____
Number of members died _____
Present total membership _____
Amount of collection _____$_____
Paid to General Secretary _____$_____
Paid to missions _____$_____
Paid to other purposes _____$_____

_____ President.

PASTOR'S QUARTERLY REPORT

(Abbreviated Form)

For _____ quarter ending _____ 19____
Field _____
Pastor _____
Societies _____
_____
Appointments _____
Sermons _____
Visits to the sick _____
Other pastoral visits _____
Members received _____
Members lost _____
Present number _____
Salary received _____
Presents received _____
Periodicals _____
Sunday School conditions _____
Christian Endeavor conditions _____
Other particulars _____

_____ Pastor.

CLASS LEADER'S QUARTERLY REPORT

For _____ quarter ending _____ 19____
Class and field _____
Number of prayer meetings held _____

Number of class meetings held _____
Average attendance _____
Visits to sick and delinquent _____
Other visits _____
_____ Leader.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S QUARTERLY REPORT

For _____ Sunday School of _____
((Circuit or Mission) _____ Conference
CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST

Date of report _____
Number of scholars enrolled _____
Average attendance _____
Teachers _____
Officers _____
Scholars converted _____
Number of sessions promptly opened _____
Number of Lesson Quarterlies _____
Number of Intermediate Quarterlies _____
Number of Teacher's Quarterlies _____
Number of Gems of Cheer _____
Number of Sunbeams _____
Number of Little Bible Lesson Cards _____
Collected for Missions _____$_____
Children's Day collection _____$_____
Collected for General S. S. Board _____$_____
Collections for local expenses _____$_____
_____ Superintendent.

GENERAL OFFICERS AND BOARDS

General Officers

Bishops—F. L. Hoskins, D.D., Myrtle, Idaho; W. E. Musgrave, D.D., Huntington, Indiana; A. M. Johnson, Huntington, Indiana.

Editor of Christian Conservator—W. H. Zeigler, D.D., Huntington, Indiana.

Editor of Sunday School and Christian Endeavor Literature—G. A. Shepherdson, Huntington, Indiana.

Publishing Agent—W. C. South, Huntington, Indiana.

General Missionary Secretary—J. Howe, Huntington, Indiana.

General Secretary of Preacher's Aid—J. W. Burton, Blanchard, Michigan.

General Secretary of Education—C. A. Mummart, D.D., Huntington, Indiana.

General Secretary of Religious Education—J. E. Harwood, Huntington, Indiana.

Executive Secretary of Board of Administration—L. M. Davis, Huntington, Indiana.

General Church Treasurer—J. W. Brubaker, Huntington, Indiana.

Secretary of Transportation—H. C. Mason, D.D., Blissfield, Michigan.

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Board of Education—F. L. Hoskins, W. E. Musgrave, A. M. Johnson, E. B. Griffin, C. A. Mummart, J. E. Harwood, B. J. Hazzard, C. H. Slusher, C. F. Mansberger.

Publishing Board—W. R. Lines, F. L. Hoskins, A. M. Johnson, E. B. Griffin, W. H. Kindell, W. E. Musgrave, E. M. Funk.

Mission Board—F. L. Hoskins, W. E. Musgrave, A. M. Johnson, E. B. Griffin, J. Howe, S. A. Stemen, O. M. Wilson, J. A. Storer, C. W. Lucas.

Board of Religious Education—W. E. Musgrave, J. E. Harwood, G. A. Shepherdson, O. L. Barker, Elmer Becker, G. M .Sill, C. H. Hull.

Preachers' Aid Board—F. L. Hoskins, W. E. Musgrave, A. M. Johnson, J. W. Burton, E. B. Griffin, J. L. Buckwalter, C. W. Lucas.

General Board of Church Trustees—F. L. Hoskins, W. E. Musgrave, A. M. Johnson, E. B. Griffin, J. Howe, C. A. Mummart, W. C. South.

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